The Literary Digest

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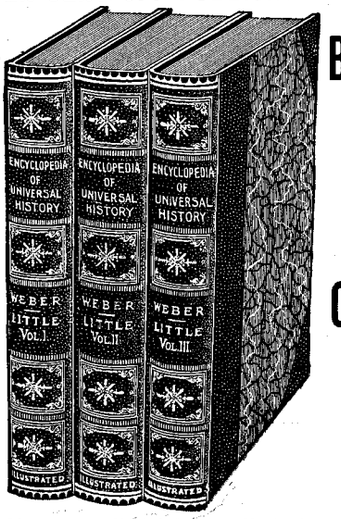

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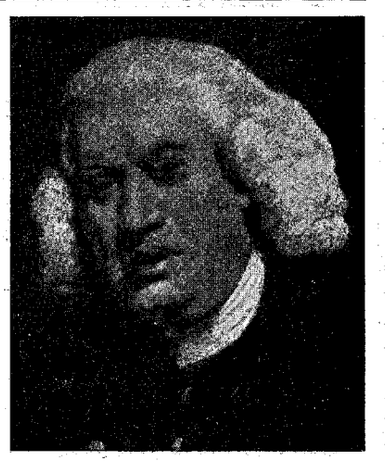

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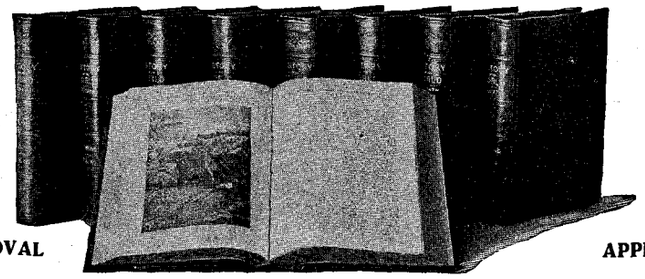

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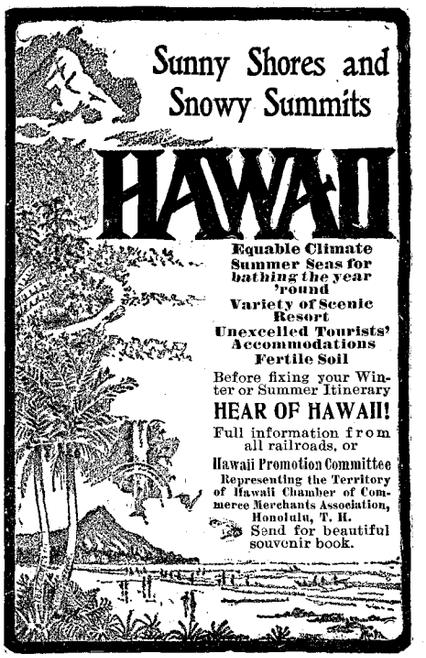
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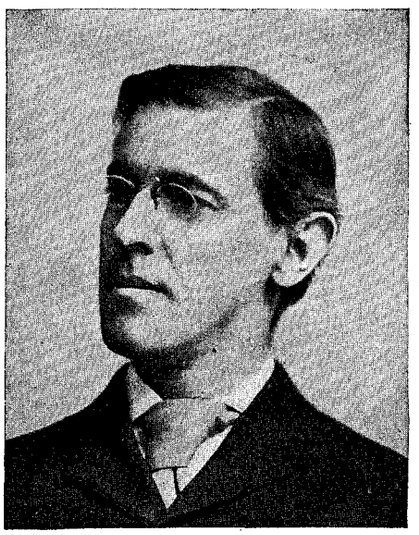

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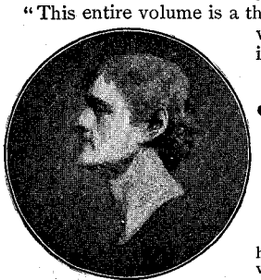

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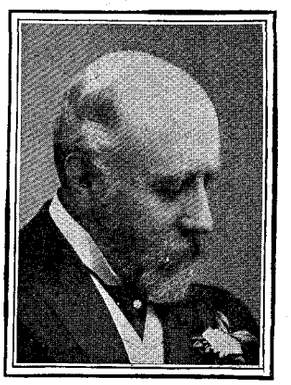

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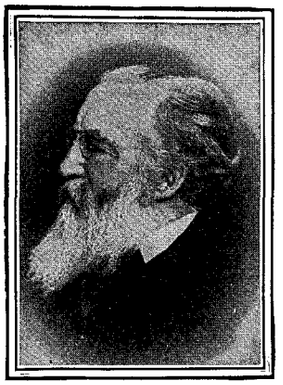

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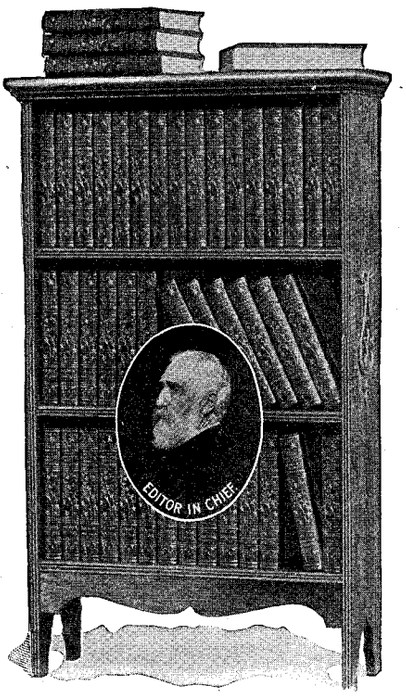

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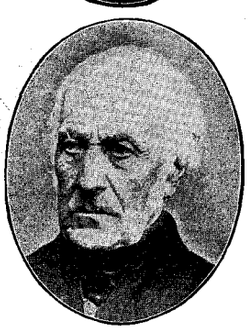

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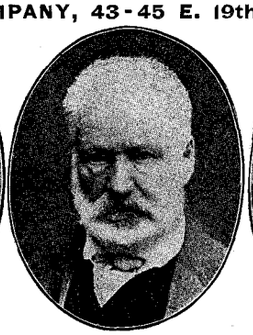

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

UPPER STRATA OF THE POSTAL SCANDALS.

IT is said that when Mr. Bristow began his investigation of the postal frauds President Roosevelt told him to "probe them to the bottom." Now that the result has been made public, some of the press think that it might have been well if Mr. Bristow had also been told to probe them to the top. "After all," says the Baltimore *Sun* (Ind.), "are these clerks and officials of the Post-office Department the only grafters? Does it not go higher? How about Congress? How about the railroad companies, with their enormous influence in the halls of legislation and in all the departments of government?" The reason why Machen passed unscathed through two Congressional investigations, several papers allege, lay in the fact that so many Congressmen were mixed up in his corrupt deals that they did not dare expose him. The Representatives of both parties "ought to be profoundly mortified," declares the Philadelphia *Record* (Ind. Dem.):

"They have been voting money into their own pockets, in effect, by voting money for Machen and Beavers to disburse under their direction among their friends and for their advantage. They may not be capable of shame, but the country is ashamed of them; their names ought to be published; some of them are well known already. The country notices with mortification how low is the standard of honor in political life, and how narrow a line divides patronage from plunder. It is the nature of the spoils system to raid the public treasury."

The Springfield *Republican* (Ind.) says in the same vein:

"It must not be forgotten that the low standards of many members of Congress are responsible for part of the extravagance, recklessness, and corruption that have been disclosed. Many of the inexcusable acts of Beavers in raising salaries of postal clerks and in approving leases at exorbitant figures were done at the request or behest of Congressmen and political leaders of party influence. If full justice were done, the names of every one of those men would be published this morning in the President's memorandum along with the rogues' gallery of indicted postal officials who conspicuously figure in the President's personal commentary. It is idle to expect absolute purity among department officials and clerks if the men of power whom the people choose as their representatives in Congress constantly seek to corrupt the department by their appeals and demands for special favors that are inconsistent with the integrity of official life. It is to be feared that Congress itself, working through its individual members, has polluted the whole official atmosphere with the old conception of government as a fat thing to be preyed upon. Efficiency, progress, and common honesty can not easily thrive in a service that is kept under such influences."

Other journals would like to see Postmaster-General Payne's resignation handed to him for signature. "To-day he stands revealed more clearly than ever as a miracle of incompetence," and he "should go at once," says the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.); and so thinks the Louisville *Courier-Journal* (Dem.), which remarks:

"The President, in his 'memorandum' on Bristow's report on the post-office rottenness, gives much of the credit for the investigation to Postmaster-General Payne. He, however, fails to make any memorandum of the fact that when charges of this rottenness began first to appear, and for months afterward, Postmaster-General Payne repeatedly pooh-poohed them as of no consequence. The President may write memoranda and issue statements to the end of his term and he will not be able to free his Postmaster-General of blame in this scandal, nor will he be able to justify himself for appointing such a Postmaster-General—an appointment notoriously made, not in the interest of the public service, but of Mr. Roosevelt's personal political fortunes."

Mr. Payne's home papers, however, the Milwaukee *Wisconsin* (Rep.) and *Sentinel* (Rep.), regard him as the leader of the investigation. "It was fortunate for the country that President Roosevelt made Henry C. Payne Postmaster-General," says *The Wisconsin*; and *The Sentinel* observes:

"Both the President and the Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General bear witness that the originator of this inquiry and its moving and directing spirit throughout was Postmaster-General Payne. The absurd theory started in some quarters, either through sheer malice or a gross misrepresentation of Mr. Payne's previous career and personality, that Mr. Payne for some inscrutable reason was inclined to deprecate and check an investigation so manifestly to the advantage and credit of his own adminstration is thus finally disposed of. . . . . .

"The mistaken conception of Mr. Payne's appointment to the Postmaster-Generalship as a purely 'political' one, designed to strengthen the Administration by the addition to the cabinet of an exceptionally shrewd and experienced political adviser and tactician, was mainly responsible for the now exploded notion that the part played by him in the postal investigation was a somewhat reluctant and perfunctory one. As the wrongdoings under scrutiny were carried on through both Democratic and Republican Administrations, and as the credit for the investigation itself certainly belongs to the party making it, it is difficult to see why any such notion should have gained credence. No one who really knew Mr. Payne, and appreciated his expressed aims and ambitions on taking cabinet office, entertained it for a moment. The essential fact that Mr. Payne's critics have either been ignorant of or else have wilfully overlooked is that Mr. Roosevelt's Postmaster-General is a postal expert and reformer of long practical experience."

Mr. Heath's resignation as secretary of the Republican national committee is also suggested. "All things considered," remarks the Chicago *Record-Herald* (Ind.), his retention "might not be deemed a satisfactory recommendation of the Republican party to the people. The leaders of the party should think this over laboriously and prayerfully before they venture upon the incongruity

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of a Roosevelt campaign with Heath for assistant manager." The Providence *Journal* (Ind.) treats Mr. Heath thus:

"The notorious Perry Heath, who as First Assistant Postmaster-General was only one step removed from the cabinet, and in the absence of his immediate superior was entitled to a place at the President's council board, is saved from criminal prosecution only by the statute of limitations. Not only did the system of graft flower luxuriantly during his administration, of which he had the effrontery to declare he was 'proud'; the trail of this corrupt spoilsman was constantly struck during the investigation, and evidence brought to light indicating that he, too, was profiting by the perfectly organized system of bribery and blackmail. There are indications that he received a share of stock distributed among post-office officials by the promoters of a device known as the Montague indicator, altho the District Attorney decided that the evidence was not sufficient to justify his indictment. In May, 1899, he gave an order for the purchase of two hundred and fifty Brandt automatic cashiers at one hundred and fifty dollars each, tho they were selling in the open market for one hundred and twenty-five dollars, and were proved to be practically useless. There is evidence that the worthlessness of another machine, of which one hundred were purchased at three hundred dollars each, was well known to Heath before they were ordered. One witness has declared that he transferred to Heath twenty thousand dollars worth of stock in consideration of receiving an order for not less than three hundred of another cancelling-machine, and further stated that on all machines sold to the Department twenty-five dollars was to be paid to Beavers, which Beavers asserted was to be divided with Heath. That the latter can not be reached is one of the most regrettable features of the whole scandal."

Railways and the Panama Canal.—*The Railway World* (Philadelphia) makes the interesting declaration that the repeated charges that the transcontinental railroads have been blocking the isthmian canal project "have never had any substantial basis in fact," but have been the product of "very fertile imaginations." It says:

"Any one familiar with railway history and operation in this country knows that such a canal will be of ultimate and inestimable value to the railway systems of the country. Temporarily—until the railways adjust themselves to the new conditions a canal would bring about—there may be an injury to the traffic of the transcontinental lines by the construction of the Panama waterway; but after the adjustment of new conditions is effected advantages will result to the American railway system. This will not only flow out of the development of new resources, but from the growth in population and the general prosperity which will follow the completion of such an important undertaking.

"If the transcontinental railways of the United States were to depend upon the long-haul business from the Pacific to the Atlantic—that is, upon transporting the kind of goods that will go to the canal when in operation—they would long ago have gone into bankruptcy. As a matter of fact, it is the short-haul business of these transcontinental lines that pays, and it is this very business that the Panama Canal will develop and increase. It will do this because the great bulk of the products passing through the canal will not only be brought from interior points to the seaboard, thus adding to the short-haul business of the steam-roads, but the very same goods, to a very large extent, must be taken to interior points at whatever seaport they are landed on either coast, and that, too, by the railroads. So whichever way the goods are transported the railroads will get them finally for transportation to and from inland points. The long-haul business that the roads will lose to the canal will be more than made up by the increase in short-haul business and in the general benefits flowing out of the operation of a Panama canal.

"We pointed out in our issue of November 7 how it was coming about that the competition of the electric lines, at first so much dreaded by some railway officials, is beginning to prove the salvation of the passenger business of the steam-rail lines. Similar effects in adding to the freight business of the transcontinental lines will flow out of the construction of an interoceanic waterway in Central America."

THE WAR ON PEONAGE.

WHEN several persons were convicted of holding negroes in a state of peonage in Alabama last June, several of the Southern newspapers loudly denounced the lawless system and assumed that such cases were rare and restricted only to sections of that State. It was thought at the time that the Alabama convictions would wipe out the practise altogether; but those cases are now followed by a number of indictments for peonage in Georgia and Louisiana. Many prominent persons living in southern Georgia have been indicted by the federal grand jury, which has been in session at Savannah. Among those indicted are a former member of the legislature and an ex-sheriff. Most of the defendants, as in the Alabama cases, pleaded guilty, and three have been fined $1,000 each. On November 22 the federal grand jury of the northern district of Louisiana, which has been investigating charges of peonage and land frauds, returned seven indictments for peonage, reputed to include some of the leading planters in the northern part of the State. There is in Louisiana a law which prescribes penalties for violations of labor contracts. The act was intended to cover cases where the laborer fraudulently obtains advances in money or supplies from the farmer and refuses to work for him; but under this law, it is charged, many persons are kept in servitude to work out real or pretended debts. The grand jury reports that there have been violations of this statute, but adds that it was unable to find many indictments because of the difficulty in securing sufficient evidence.

"Undoubtedly the villainous system of leasing convicts is responsible for the spread of the peonage idea," says the New York *Evening Post*, "but the fact that the negroes were politically defenseless has made them an easy prey to their unscrupulous white neighbors. The one encouraging feature of the whole scandal is that the miscreants are being punished by white judges and juries." The whole peonage movement, declares the Milwaukee *Sentinel*, "simply means that there are sections of the South where the negroes would be practically reenslaved if such sections were left to their own devices in working out the race problem." And the Chicago *Tribune* remarks:

"The indictments show that the peonage system in the cotton States has not come to an end. The penalties inflicted in Alabama and Georgia on some of the men who have been carrying it on have not deterred others. Nothing will deter them probably except constant vigilance and persistent prosecution. The true bills returned by federal grand juries in Louisiana and Georgia are evidence that the war against peonage has not slackened. If it continues to be kept up vigorously, the number of black men and women kept in a state of semi-servitude certainly will be greatly reduced. The enslavement of blacks will cease entirely if state and local authorities will cooperate heartily with the federal authorities, but in only a few instances have there been signs of a willingness to cooperate."

The planters of Louisiana, the despatches say, are bitter over the investigation being carried on among them. The following notice has been sent to a deputy marshal who has been getting witnesses in the peonage cases:

"SIR: The part taken by you recently in this community makes it necessary for you to find a home in some other State besides Louisiana. The white people do not propose being annoyed by your kind of cattle. Take warning."

The New York *Tribune* says in regard to this note:

"We hope that there is no mistake about the disposition of the South to protect the negroes. They are practically disfranchised, so that there is no pretext now for not protecting them in the enjoyment of their full civil rights. Therefore we hope to see the South visit its condemnation on all those who attempt to interfere with the suppression of peonage. . . . . .

"Now we perfectly understand that a whole community is not justly to be blamed for the lucubrations of a few individuals, or for the desperate attempts of a lot of lawbreakers to save them-

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selves. But we hope that our Southern contemporaries who indignantly asked to be let alone to put down peonage will see that this officer is protected and aided in doing his duty. We should hate to believe, and do not believe, that race prejudice will give the practitioners of peonage any support in Louisiana or any other State."

GENERAL WOOD AND MAJOR RUNCIE.

OF all the objections urged against the promotion of Brig.-Gen. Leonard Wood to be a major-general, the press treat most seriously the charge that he inspired Major Runcie's article in *The North American Review*, which attacked General Brooke's work as military governor of Cuba and extolled the record of Wood as governor of Santiago. General Wood became Governor of Cuba December 13, 1899, and the now famous magazine article appeared the following February. The Senate committee that is hearing the testimony on the Wood case is sitting behind closed doors, but the testimony appears in the papers from day to day. Major Runcie's testimony is summarized as follows by the New York *Tribune's* Washington correspondent:

"Major Runcie explained that he had acted as the confidential adviser of General Wood for nearly two years, and that they lived together at Santiago. It was while they were living in the same house that Mr. Baker went to Santiago in search of material for a magazine article. A meeting was aranged between the three men, and a dinner followed, Major Runcie testified, at which the plan to have published an article which would exploit the success of General Wood in dealing with affairs at Santiago and draw a comparison with the situation unfavorable to the administration of General Brooke was formed. Major Runcie declared that General Wood asked him to write the article and that he did so. The article was given to Baker and published in February, 1900, over the name of Major Runcie. He asserted that General Wood knew what the article contained, and that they had correspondence about it as the result of the sensation caused by its publication."

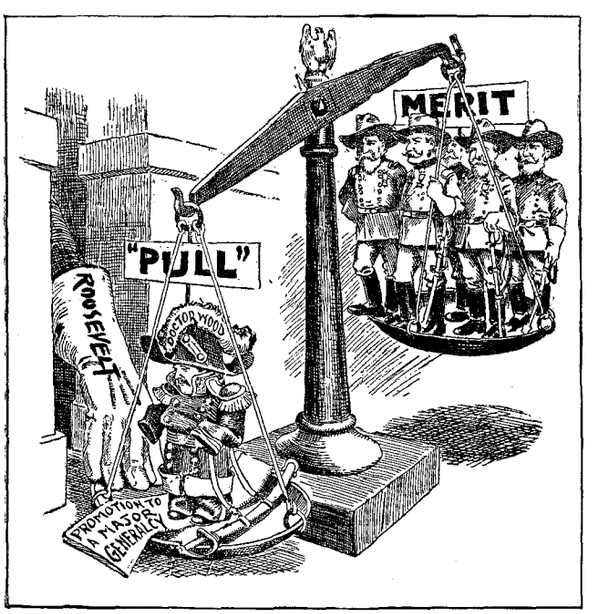
A few days after this testimony Mr. Baker was called. He said that he had had no consultation with General Wood in regard to the article, and that, so far as he knew, Wood had no knowledge of it before it was published. His testimony is summarized thus in a Washington despatch:

"Mr. Baker confirmed some portions of the testimony of Major Runcie and contradicted or qualified other portions of it. He denied that there had been any consultation between himself and General Wood relative to the publication of Major Runcie's article reflecting on the administration of General Brooke. He said, however, that he had talked with General Wood regarding an article which was afterward published over his own signature. When asked whether he had talked with the President about the Wood case, he replied in the negative, and made practically the same reply to a question as to whether he had conferred with War Department officials.

GEN. LEONARD WOOD.
Said by *Harper's Weekly* to be his latest photograph.

"Concerning the article which was published over the signature of Major Runcie, Mr. Baker said it had been given to him by Runcie, but, so far as he knew, General Wood had no knowledge of it before it was published. He said he had dined with General Wood and Major Runcie several times at Santiago, but the publication of an article attacking General Brooke had never been discussed.

"Mr. Baker was questioned closely by Senator Scott, a member of the committee, and by Senators Hanna and Teller, who were present. They quoted Major Runcie's letter to Baker suggesting that the time was opportune for the publication of the Runcie article in General Wood's interest, and asked him if the letter did not show that there had been conferences on the subject and a perfect understanding. Mr. Baker admitted that appearances would lead to that inference, but insisted there had not been any understanding. Mr. Baker admitted that he, Wood, and Runcie had discussed General Brooke's administration of Cuban affairs, but said the discussion had been impersonal, and that Brooke's name had not been mentioned. He also said that Gen-



NEW SYSTEM OF WEIGHING.
—DeMar in the Philadelphia *Record*.

RUNNING THE GANTLET.
—Satterfield in the Nashville *News*.

WOOD CUTS.

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"CURFEW SHALL NOT RING TO-NIGHT."
—Opper in the New York *American*.

ELIZA CROSSING THE ICE.
—Scott in the Philadelphia *Ledger*.

CARTOON GLIMPSES OF THE G. O. P.

eral Wood had introduced him to Runcie when he first went to Cuba."

The New York *Tribune* says of the Runcie testimony:

"General Wood may be greatly wronged by this testimony. If so, he should be vindicated and those who accuse him falsely should be punished. But he can not be vindicated on such a charge, definitely made, merely by pushing it aside as of no consequence. If what Major Runcie is reported to have said is true, General Wood is unfit to wear shoulder-straps. If it is false, Major Runcie ought to be court-martialed. There is no middle ground. There is no escape by pleading that the Brooke attack was a small affair and is outlawed. Truth is not a small affair. Military honor is not outlawed."

The Buffalo *Express*, which is friendly to Wood, says:

"Of course, if it should be shown that Wood directly inspired the article written by Major Runcie for *The North American Review*, that might require some attention—perhaps a reprimand. The statements in the article appear to have been true and Brooke probably deserved the criticism. Still, it is hardly right to pass over entirely such an offense as the public criticism of a superior officer by a subordinate, tho that has been done frequently. For example, Major John R. Bigelow published a book on the Santiago campaign in which he criticized General Shafter very severely. The larger-minded Shafter did not even make a complaint, and, instead of being called to account, Major Bigelow was offered a higher command in the Philippines, which he declined. But it still appears very doubtful if Wood had anything to do with that Runcie article beyond a general knowledge that something was to be written about the administration of Cuba. It was Runcie who signed the article, and, supposably, it was Runcie who got the pay for it. Runcie is a West Point man, and had been in the service for twenty-five years when that article was published. He knew all the rules and traditions about criticizing a superior officer in print. He knew them a great deal better than Wood did. He knew what the probable consequence would be of publishing such an article. Having deliberately taken upon himself the responsibility for the publication in the first place, he has not done a very manly act in trying to shift it when the effect on his personal fortunes began to look disagreeable."

It seems to be expected by the Washington correspondents that the Wood nomination will be confirmed. Such a result "is regarded as assured by trustworthy authorities in the Senate," says the correspondent of the New York *Tribune;* and the correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* says corroboratively:

"One of the leaders in the senatorial opposition to General Wood's confirmation expresses the belief to your correspondent that the fight against Wood will prove fruitless. He thinks that the President knew his ground before the nomination was made, and had assured himself of a safe outcome. Many Republican Senators, according to this anti-Wood leader, freely confess that they do not want to vote for confirmation, but from various motives, chiefly a desire for harmony, feel committed to do so.

"How vigorous a fight Senator Hanna will make on the floor remains a subject of interesting conjecture. It was originally supposed that he would content himself with a forceful statement of his position in behalf of his friend Rathbone, leaving the Senate to take its course. But Senator Hanna seldom fights that way, and indications multiply that he will not in this case.

"Undue emphasis is attached in current reports to the effect of a determined fight of this kind upon the relations of Senator Hanna and the President. Such a contest could not be compared with that which Senator Hill made against President Cleveland's appointments to the Supreme Court, resulting in the defeat of Hornblower and Wheeler H. Peckham. General Wood, it is argued here, received his great promotion from President McKinley, and his Cuban policy was a McKinley policy. Therefore Senator Hanna could not logically make the present contest a trial of strength between the McKinley wing of the party, which he generally represents, and the President, even if he attempted to do so."

THE BASSETT RESIGNATION DECLINED.

THE decision of the trustees of Durham College, in North Carolina, by a vote of 18 to 7, not to accept the resignation of Prof. John Spencer Bassett (considered in these columns last week) is received with commendation in the North, and with varied feelings in the South. The trustees, by this action, "have done more for true education in the South than would an endowment of millions," believes the Philadelphia *Press;* while the New York *Evening Post* declares that the importance of their action "can not be overestimated," and "its effects will be felt for years to come." Professor Bassett, it will be recalled, said in a magazine article that Booker T. Washington is "the greatest man, save Lee, born in the South in a hundred years," predicted that the negroes "will win equality at some time," and pleaded for "the adoption of these children of Africa into our American life." He explained, later, that he did not mean social equality, and does not favor racial amalgamation, but the storm of criticism that his article had provoked drove him to tender his resignation. A number of

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Southern papers argued, however, that to accept his resignation would be an act of intolerance and a blow at freedom of speech, students and professors in the college urged the trustees to retain him, and the trustees, after a session lasting nearly all night, declined the resignation. When the result was known, the students held a big jollification meeting on the campus, and hanged in effigy the editor of the Raleigh *News and Observer*, which had led the fight against Bassett. Whereupon the North Carolina Editorial Association, which was in Washington on an excursion, adopted resolutions condemning the students' act "as an attempt to abridge the freedom of the press."

"The trustees acted properly in refusing to accept Professor Bassett's resignation," thinks the Jacksonville *Times-Union;* and the Charlotte (S. C.) *Observer* is "heartily glad" of the result. The Richmond *Times-Dispatch*, however, is "shocked" at the view Profesor Bassett takes of the negro question, and holds that "he is not a fit and proper person to be teaching the youths of the South." And the Columbia *State* says: "To be as mild as possible in our judgment of him, he is grossly incompetent, and the institution which retains him is bound to suffer from his incompetency."

The Raleigh *News and Observer*, which led the anti-Bassett movement, says:

"Freedom of speech is important and must be preserved, but there is one thing dearer to the Southern people, to wit: the preservation of its civilization, and the purity of the white blood, the supremacy of Anglo-Saxon ideals and white government. Dr. Bassett's teachings undermine the very mud-sills of our civilization, the safety and purity of our homes, and dishonor the noble names linked with Southern history. His article shows that he is not only in sentiment alien to the policies essential to the preservation of Southern civilization, but that he is hostile to the spirit that dominates the South to-day and must always dominate it if the white race is to preserve its purity and its power.

"If a man set fire to your house, are you to excuse him under the plea that he always was careless of fire? If a man in an institution of learning in North Carolina, where conditions demand the continuation of the present policy as to the races that has become the fixed policy of the South, deliberately writes an article that would undermine the pillars of Southern civilization, can it be safely condoned?

"Dr. Bassett's offense is as serious as if he had written an article attacking the most vital doctrine of the Methodist Church. He does worse than that: he writes words that tend to dishonor a wise and necessary policy in the South. Once let the ideas in the Bassett article become widespread, and then the civilization of the South is destroyed. He has committed the only unpardonable sin."

"BOODLING" IN GRAND RAPIDS.

"THE most flagrant case of municipal grafting thus far reported," as the Minneapolis *Times* expresses it, was exposed last week in Grand Rapids, Mich., by the confession of ex-City Attorney Lant K. Salsbury. "Here, there, and everywhere," continues *The Times*, "there have been disclosures of municipal corruption, but in no instance has there been exposed such a mass of rottenness as the evidence in the Grand Rapids case lays bare." Salsbury's statement came out during the examination of State Senator David E. Burns, charged with accepting a bribe in connection with the Garman-Cameron scheme for supplying the city with water from Lake Michigan. The statement implicates office-holders, former office-holders, professional men, bankers, business men, and last, but most startling, three daily newspapers. Salsbury has already been convicted of the crime of which he tells, and has just finished a two-years' term in the Detroit House of Correction for breaking the federal banking law in connection with the scheme. His critics think that his record invalidates his testimony. The corruption that he tells of took place two years ago. He testifies that there were six separate water-conspiracy deals on at one time, each effort being promoted by "boodle." Each of the six water companies wanted exclusive water rights, therefore the six were fighting each other. According to his statement, he assured each company that he would look after its interests in the Common Council, while in reality he was not taking sides with any one of them. In this way he received large bribes from several of the companies for using, as they supposed, his influence against the other five. Salsbury alleged that he bought for $13,750 the influence of the Grand Rapids *Democrat* in favor of his conspiracy, and that he gave $10,000 to Eugene D. Conger, proprietor of *The Herald*, and $5,000 to G. S. Burch, manager of *The Evening Press*, for the same purpose. Ex-Mayor George R. Perry is said to have received $13,725. The other persons implicated by Salsbury and the amounts he alleges them to have received are as follows:

"R. A. Cameron, New York, $500; State Senator David E.

"ALAS! POOR TOM, WE KNEW HIM WELL!"
—Bush in the New York *World*.

GOVERNOR ODELL ANNOUNCES THAT HE IS GOING TO "TAKE A MORE ACTIVE PART IN POLITICS."
—Bush in the New York *World*.

EMPIRE STATE POLITICS ILLUSTRATED.

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Burns, $200; Alderman McCool, $500; Alderman Ellen, $350; Alderman De Pagter, $350; Alderman Muir, $500; Alderman Kinney, $350; Alderman Donovan, $500; Alderman Phillips, $1,000; Alderman Johnson, $350 or $400; Alderman Stonehouse, $350; Alderman Lozier, $500; Alderman Shriver, $350; Alderman Mol, $350; Alderman Ghysels, $350; Alderman Hodges, $500; Alderman Slocum, $500; Cory P. Bissell, $500; Russell Thomson, reporter on *Evening Press*, $500; Isaac Lamoreaux, former City Clerk, $1,500; State Representative Van Zoeren, $350; State Representative Van Derook, $60; Thomas F. McGarry, a prominent attorney, now in Florida, $7,500; Dudley E. Waters, former president of the Board of Public Works; Dr. Wilke De Vries, former City Physician; George Ellis, a local broker; Samuel M. Lemon, Collector of Internal Revenue, and William H. Anderson, president of the Fourth National Bank."

Eight men have pleaded guilty, and Burch, Conger, and others of the accused have issued indignant and pointed denials. The Grand Rapids *Evening Press* supports Mr. Burch, and shows that for years it has vigorously and consistently opposed Salsbury and the proposed water-supply deals. Excerpts from editorials are given to prove its statements. *The Press* then asks: "Was this the course of one who had some of Salsbury's bribe money in his pocket and would himself be involved in Salsbury's downfall?"

Some doubt is expressed as to the truth of Salsbury's confession. He avers that hard luck forced him into the conspiracy, as he had lost a great deal of money in speculation, and had a $15,000 shortage in his bank account. "More than one rascal of Salsbury's stripe," says the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, "finding himself in a pit of his own digging, has accused innocent people for the sake of involving his enemies in his own ruin." But the Detroit *Free Press* believes that Salsbury has spoken the truth:

"If Salsbury lied, how does it happen that half a dozen of the men whom he implicated have confessed their share in the crime? Certainly he could not have lied about them, or they would not have admitted their guilt and begged for mercy. Is it fair to presume that he told the truth only about the men that have confessed and lied about the men that strenuously deny all knowledge of wrongdoing? This is possible, but the weight of evidence is heavily against this theory. The 'personal-malice' explanation leaves a great deal to be desired. A man who knows what prison life means, and who is again standing in the shadow of the penitentiary, is not likely to jeopard his chance of escape by allowing personal malice to dominate his conduct."

The charge against the newspapers of Grand Rapids is a shock to many of the papers. "The offense that is charged against them," says the Detroit *Free Press*, "is even more heinous than that charged against the city officials, for the American newspaper pretends to be a stone wall between the public and the rascality of its servants." And the Detroit *Journal* declares:

"If the whole body of Grand Rapids clergy had been named by Salsbury, the shock could hardly be greater than we received when we read his charge that he bound every newspaper in the city hand and foot. . . . This is the most shameful and distressing of Salsbury's charges. Public officials by the score have fallen in the sight of all men at the blasting touch of the briber. But nowhere in this country before has the press been charged with being in a scheme of spoliation with thieves and purchasable and purchased officials. St. Louis was given over to the grafter. But the press of the city fought on, and eventually succeeded in opening the investigation. In Chicago the press has aided the cause of pure government consistently and effectively. The same is true even in Philadelphia, so apparently otherwise lost to a sense of shame for the rottenness of its government. It remained for Grand Rapids alone to present this astounding, sickening, and saddening spectacle of a city's entire list of newspapers lying under the charge of selling out their allegiance to the public."

The Chicago *Tribune* has this to say of the whole exposure:

"The striking feature of the exposé is that it concerns a comparatively small town. It had been generally supposed that virtue had been driven from the big cities and had taken refuge in the smaller ones, whence the boodler could not drive her out. But here is a typical middle western city of moderate size, progressive, busy, and prosperous, in which political corruption, if Salsbury is to be believed, is as widespread and thorough as it ever was in Chicago during its palmiest days of evil. City officials, the mayor included, and many leading citizens not in office, have been boldly dishonest.

"The conclusion to be drawn is that wherever there is a franchise to give away there may be boodling, whether the town be a large or a small one. The only communities which are certainly honest are those whose municipal officers have no privileges to grant which tempt the boodler."

DOWIE BANKRUPT.

DOWIE may not be Elijah, but he seems to have "gone up," remarks an unfeeling paragrapher, apropos of the Chicago prophet's financial embarrassment; while another observes that Zion City is now proved to be a genuine "land of promise."

TOTTERING.
—Maybell in the Brooklyn *Eagle*.

Dowie's creditors, says a third writer, will see to it that he is the "restorer." Such comments as these show how little sympathy is felt by the press at large for the bankrupt prophet. Dowie is reported to have assets of $10,000,000, while the claims against him are reckoned at from $400,000 to $3,000,000. Some of his creditors think he is fully able to meet his obligations, and they will join in an effort to have the receivers in bankruptcy ousted on the ground that Dowie is solvent, and that his creditors will get less if litigation is prolonged. It seems to be pretty generally believed that Dowie's spectacular New York crusade was undertaken with the idea of filling the Zion treasury, and that its failure, with an expense bill of more than a quarter of a million, precipitated the trouble. Says the New York *Press*:

"It takes real genius to run the gantlet of New York city. Such had the promoters of the Franklin Syndicate and the shipbuilding trust. Dowie had neither genius nor tact. . . . The moral of Dowie's undoing is plain for all to read. Unless they can invent a really artistic bunco they should shun New York."

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* remarks corroboratively:

"New York is a cormorant that takes everything and gives up nothing. It is thankful for the quarter of a million which Dowie spent there, but it is giving up neither spiritual nor financial recruits. The people of Chicago may be easy, but New Yorkers are hard-shells. The gold-brick game is worked from New York on unsuspecting visitors, and not on the inhabitants."

A good deal of sympathy is expressed, however, for the thousands of Dowie followers who find themselves facing want at the

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beginning of winter. A press despatch says that "hundreds of followers, through his urgent appeal during the past few days, have brought and laid at Dowie's feet every cent they have in the world, and, excepting the coupon books on Zion's stores, which they received for the deposits, most of the ordinary residents are poverty-stricken." A Chicago despatch to the New York *Tribune* says:

"Investigation to-day showed that the fuel supply of many families in Zion City was reduced to almost nothing. The extent to which the people of Zion City have beggared themselves is shown by a trip through the town. It would be a bleak, desolate place in winter even if the houses were tightly built and warmly heated, because the settlement rambles over an unprotected prairie that slopes to the marshy shore of Lake Michigan, and is open to the full sweep of the winds that come from the north and east over the water. Many of the poorer people, the men and women who work in the factories, live in houses flimsy in construction and unfit to live in through a Chicago winter. The walls of some are merely strips of tarred paper nailed on wooden frames. Other houses are really tents of canvas, while still others are combinations of tents and sheds. Not a few are little less than dugouts.

"A shovelful of coal or a dozen or two sticks of wood comprises the entire fuel supply of most of these people. Others possess neither coal nor wood. In several instances they have gone back to stumps and roots and piles of dried grass and straw as the sole protection against freezing.

"And it is from these people that Dowie asks $1,000,000."

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER.

Sketched from life by George Varian in Cleveland, October, 1903, for *McClure's Magazine*.

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* believes that Dowie is being treated unjustly. It says:

"John Alexander Dowie and his followers have built up at Zion City a $10,000,000 property. There are 6,500 acres of land, bought at an average of $200 an acre. There are factories on whose buildings and machinery over $500,000 has been spent. Hundreds of homes have been erected. Fully $3,000,000 has been put into improvements. About 6,000 people live and work there.

"Whether the particular industries on which the town was to exist were judiciously selected may be a question. That Dowie's general idea in building a town there was commercially attractive is proved by the fact that before a sod was turned responsible real-estate men offered to take his land purchases off his hands at an advance of $500,000 and then of $1,000,000. From this it is plain that Dowie's was no wild-cat scheme.

"The total liabilities of Zion City are said to be about $3,000,000, or less than one-third the estimated value of the visible assets. The great bulk of these liabilities is capital stock, the investments of Dowie's followers in the enterprise. The actual debts now due or soon due to outsiders—to those not in some way partners in the enterprise—appear to be little over $200,000, or about one-fiftieth the visible assets.

"Various creditors had entered suits against Zion for about $70,000. Such suits are certainly no proof of actual insolvency. There is probably not a large manufacturing or mercantile concern in the United States which has not always pending litigations involving a much larger proportion of its visible assets. And it is safe to say that there is not a business house in existence against which larger proportionate suits might not be brought if its creditors chose to press their claims in court.

"Yet, in the face of these facts, showing only the ordinary conditions of the business world, late Tuesday afternoon, without notice to the defendants, a federal judge was persuaded, on the petition of creditors claiming only $1,169, to throw this $10,000,000 property into the hands of receivers, on the pretense that if this were not done this $10,000,000 estate might be dissipated and these creditors might not get their $1,169!

"Aside from the peculiar religious views of Dowie and his associates and with regard only to their commercial organization, it seems fair to ask whether any other business enterprise of equal magnitude would have been treated with such severity. Would any manufacturing or mercantile house in Chicago, with visible assets of $10,000,000, with debts actually due or soon due of $200,000, with suits of creditors against it of only $70,000, be thrown into receivers' hands and declared bankrupt to protect claims of only $1,169?

"The question that irresistibly suggests itself to every business man is whether Dowie and his associates have been treated with the commonest of common commercial decency—whether the whole proceeding is not an outrage upon plain, every-day fairness and justice."

MR. ROCKEFELLER AND MR. MORGAN.

NEWSPAPER comment upon our multi-millionaires is always with us in greater or less degree. Just now Mr. John D. Rockefeller and his relations with Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, in financial matters, are the subject of earnest speculation; and the report from Washington (followed by a denial) that the Standard Oil Company has refused to answer the questions propounded to trusts by the new Department of Commerce and Labor has further stimulated the newspaper comment concerning Mr. Rockefeller and his supposed aversion to publicity. "He may be said to be the von Moltke rather than the Napoleon of finance," says the Boston *Herald*, in remarking upon this trait of Mr. Rockefeller's character. Mr. Morgan, adds the same journal, delights in playing the great man; it is with him "a pleasure to be pointed out and named when on the street in either Paris, London, or Washington"; but "Mr. Rockefeller has, apparently, no personal ambitions of this character, he is quite content that his personality should not be known." Altho the denial of the report from Washington is officially made by the Standard Oil Company, the newspapers still seem to attach some credit to the report and to make it the occasion of characteristic remarks. "The Standard Oil Company has made its money in the dark, and proposes to continue to do so," comments the Boston *Transcript*; and the Hartford *Post* re-

AN ECLIPSE IN THE FINANCIAL HEAVENS.

—Bart in the Minneapolis *Journal*.

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marks: "Mr. Rockefeller has always worked under cover. His methods are dark-lantern methods. It was, therefore, to be expected that he would refuse to come out into the light. . . . The question whether Mr. Rockefeller is stronger than the Government might as well be fought out now as any time."

Rumors are rife that the stock-market depression that has been in progress most of the year has been, in reality, due to a great fight between the Morgan interests and the Rockefeller interests, and has ended in victory for the latter, leaving Mr. Rockefeller in control of the steel trust and the Pennsylvania Railroad. The only newspaper we have seen, however, that goes so far as to announce all this as a fact is the New York *American*, which declares in startling headlines on its first page that "Morgan is swept out of steel" by Rockefeller, who "forces him to drop $12,000,000 in bond-profits," and "dashes his conversion scheme to the ground." The "action of the Oil King," we are told further, is "regarded as the death-knell of the Morgan power." *The American's* financial writer goes on to say:

"John D. Rockefeller's heavy hand fell upon the throat of J. Pierpont Morgan yesterday and shook loose from the clutches of the master manipulator of steel stocks more than $12,000,000 of bond-conversion profits. The contract with J. P. Morgan & Co. to convert $250,000,000 preferred stock into bonds was cancelled.

"This action was taken quietly, but the effect was volcanic. It marks the passing of Morgan. He is eliminated as a ruling power in the steel company, and his dominance in Wall Street is over.

"He must hereafter report to Rockefeller. . . . Without warning or advertisement the Oil King became also the Steel King of this country."

The accompanying picture of Mr. Rockefeller, which was sketched from life for *McClure's Magazine*, is the first authentic picture of him that has appeared for years; and as he has steadily refused to give out his photograph for publication, it is not thought that the present picture was drawn with his permission, especially as it was intended for a magazine which has been running a series of not very flattering articles about his oil deals, and which has just begun a second series of a similar kind by the same writer, Miss Ida Tarbell, in the December number. The New York *Sun*, which is reputed to be a Morgan paper, reprints some of these magazine attacks upon Mr. Rockefeller upon its editorial page. *The World's Work*, too, in its December number, publishes a rather alarmist article by Sereno S. Pratt, which seems to show that the Rockefeller group of capitalists and the Morgan group are getting such a grip upon the transportation lines and banking institutions of the United States that the entire business interests of the country are more or less under their control.

The New York *Financier* declines to share the fright felt by some people at the size and power of the Rockefeller fortune. It remarks:

"A great many people, for instance, are worrying about Mr. Rockefeller's money. Eliminating the very considerable proportion among these, whose chief anxiety is how to get some of it without effort, there remains an element which is honestly distressed over the problem whether that gentleman should be allowed to accumulate more wealth, or conceding his right to make as much money as he can, whether this piling up of surplus will not in the end reduce Mr. Rockefeller's fellow men and citizens to a condition of nominal vassalage and dependence upon him for means of sustenance.

"To this class reasonable assurance may be given that the Rockefeller millions will never enslave them, providing always that American capacity and love of labor do not degenerate. How much money John Rockefeller is worth no one—perhaps not even himself—can state. A wild-eyed statistician rushed into print the other day with an estimate that the Rockefeller fortune ten years from now, provided the head of the house lived till then, would be at least two thousand million dollars. This is an amount that staggers comprehension. Of course there is nothing tangible on which to base an estimate of this character. . . . . .

"Now, if John D. Rockefeller is worth at the present time half a billion dollars—and the chances are that he is not worth that sum—he holds a little less than one-one hundred and eighty-ninth of the wealth of this country, as officially calculated. If his fortune increases at the rate of one hundred per cent. in the next decade, which is twice the average increase of the country, he will have a billion dollars in 1910, and will hold, therefore, something like one-one hundred and forty-fifth of the aggregate wealth of the nation. Assuming that the Rockefeller fortune will have increased 'to the confusion of statistics and the despair of all readers of the Arabian nights,' as one wit puts it, it still will have to grow amazingly to be regarded as a menace.

"It is not to be forgotten that the largest single fortunes disintegrate. There is no law of entail in this country, and it is quite unlikely that the financial genius that makes possible an enormous accumulation of money by one man will be transmitted from generation to generation in a direct, or collateral, line. There will be huge fortunes in the future, no doubt, but the chances that one will be created of such size as to endanger the welfare of all the people are remote. . . . . .

"There isn't a single conspicuous private fortune in the world over one hundred years old, and the few that have even a respectable ancestry are nothing compared with modern aggregations of wealth. If the American people are seriously alarmed over the piling up of huge accumulations of money, they will easily find a remedy to set affairs straight; and if the real truth were told, it is not unlikely that some of the gentlemen sitting up nights to devise ways to put their surplus to profitable use would be rather relieved at the outcome. Their designs are not sinister, and center around cures for dyspepsia, in many cases, rather than on the question of industrial enslavement of their fellow citizens, present and prospective.

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

IT appears that the kaiser is remaining in retirement because he is so well.—*The Chicago News.*

IF Panama gets the $10,000,000 she ought to do something nice for us in the hat line next summer.—*The Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

IN these days of hygienic foods, who could object to Uncle Sam indulging in a predigested republic?—*The Washington Times.*

ANOTHER Vanderbilt girl has been born, and thus a rosy outlook is provided for some future duke.—*The Chicago Record-Herald.*

IF Colombia wants to settle the matter peacefully and happily, why not secede from itself and be annexed to Panama?—*The Chicago News.*

IF Bryan does not pick up an "O" in Dublin, for the occasion, he is a worse politician than we take him for.—*The New York Mail and Express.*

One reason why our manufacturers do not sell more goods in South American republics is that they need the money.—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

WHEN the Panama canal shall have been completed, South America will be an island, and this nation's specialty is annexing islands.—*The Chicago News.*

TO any charge that the extra session has been profitless, members of the Congress can answer by exhibiting their mileage vouchers.—*The Washington Post.*

SNOW has begun to fly, and it may have a monopoly of that business for the next six months so far as Professor Langley is concerned.—*The Kansas City Journal.*

AS an act of particular regard, how would it do for the American nation to make the silent Kaiser a present of Senator Morgan's voice?—*The New York Mail and Express.*

COLON and Panama are quarreling already over the location of the new capital of Panama. The fight may result in allowing the Panama capital to remain in Washington.—*The Washington Post.*

MR. ROCKEFELLER will give $10,000,000 to aid the search for microbes. Peary should contrive some way to convince Mr. Rockefeller that the north pole is a microbe.—*The Kansas City Star.*

YOUNG man, do not be afraid to burn the midnight oil. If you do you will pile up a great fortune. John D. Rockefeller will receive his fourth quarterly dividend of $4,800,000 December 15. Never mind whose fortune.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

NOBLE Colombian says his country does not want war, but does want Panama. That's sensible talk. Willing to meet them half-way, and will give Colombia all that part of Panama we dig out of the canal channel.—*The New York Evening Telegram.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

THE LITERARY "CRISIS" IN FRANCE.

M. OCTAVE UZANNE, a French essayist and art-writer of distinction, makes the rather startling statement that literature in France is "passing through an acute crisis." He explains this statement by adding: "Literature has been too flourishing, too rich, too luxuriant, and too generally cultivated by an average of flattering talents, instead of by a select aristocracy of the pen. . . . Moreover, the indifference of the great public in matters literary seems destined to become infinitely greater and more opaquely dense. We may believe, then, that French literature is evolving toward an apparent death, the precursor, it may be, of a revival." The train of reasoning by which M. Uzanne reaches this conclusion is presented in an article in *The Fortnightly Review* (October). We quote as follows:

"Flaubert, Barbey, d'Aurevilly, Dumas *fils*, Renan, Alphonse Daudet, Edmond de Goncourt, Zola, are no more. They all had their altars and their worshipers, and some remained masters of a conscientious austerity, willing professors of poverty, which was to shield lofty thought, and prevent the lowering of the ideal to the level of the public understanding. But now all the instincts of the younger men are let loose. The appetite for notoriety has grown so keen that people no longer trouble about the dignity of the methods employed to make their names known. Your modern writer has become *arriviste*—that is to say, plotting, pushing, having a foothold in every section of society, able to make his way, to show himself to advantage. He courts old ladies, who sometimes possess a little academic influence. He runs after the big newspaper men, gets himself puffed at the start, and is content afterward to pass off, as his own, works which he has not written himself, but ordered of some poor devil more or less poverty-stricken.

"Such are the latter-day customs that cause one to foresee a speedy literary evolution toward a nameless industrialism. It is true that by that time the few remaining readers will be so greatly disabused, disheartened, or merely indifferent that the book trade will be a chimera. Something else will have to be found.

"At this moment of confusion, when a foreigner comes and asks us what he should read in order to keep in touch with the first-class works appearing here, the most sincere among us feel puzzled, and, before replying, will cast about in our minds for some striking book by a genuine literary man.

"'Let me see,' such a man will think to himself, 'Anatole France is communing with his own thoughts just now. Paul Bourget is publishing nothing. Paul Adam is publishing so much that I can't remember which really was his last book. Henri Lavedan is writing exclusively for the stage, just like Edmond Rostand, who seems to have formed a "trust" in successes. Huysmans works very slowly. . . .'

"And you look for a steeple to tower up above the mediocrities, but it all seems a dead level. Books abound; many of them are of superior merit; but the faith which should hallow them as they deserve is gone; no one has enough zeal to preach the beauties of a new work in the midst of a desert of indifference. To do that, the critic would have to pay for the author's notoriety, and he must needs abandon the idea. On such conditions, the trade of the arbiter of taste becomes impossible.

"To sum up, the French literary output is far too great, the conditions of the novel trade, for instance, compelling professional authors to turn out three or four volumes a year. The writers of works of imagination have increased fivefold within the last quarter of a century. Most of them write with a certain correctness of style; for the French language has never, perhaps, been more thoroughly handled by those who use it. But the glut of books is ruining the best writers, who are stifled in the crowd. It seems probable that, if Guy de Maupassant, Flaubert, Paul Aène, Cladel, Taine, Villiers de L'Isle-Adam, Feuillet, Feydeau, and Balzac had to start writing to-day, they would all run a chance of remaining unknown, of perishing in the suffocating promiscuity of the lower literary brotherhoods.

"Never was there such a plethora of production, nor so startling an anemia of criticism. Is there a literary decadence? That can not be said, for it would be possible to pick out works of first-rate eminence and rare originality from among this mass of printed productions. No one thinks of doing so: the times, the active conditions of life, preoccupations of all kinds, prevent these attempts at salvage. On the other hand, the public is daily lapsing deeper into a coma of indifference to all volume literature. . . . We may believe, then, that French literature is evolving toward an apparent death, the precursor, it may be, of a revival.

"What form will that revival take? It is not mine to reveal this to-day. I have set forth an honest diagnosis of the progress of the *morbus literarius* in France. For the study of the special therapeutics that would befit the situation, or any prophecy as to the future destiny of intellectual works, I take myself to be too near-sighted and altogether little fitted. As in all things, we must wait to see the evolution of ideas take a favorable turn. 'The wise man does not compose,' said Joubert. 'Among his ideas he accepts but few. He gives them, such as they are, and does not waste his time with deductions. Triptolemus, when he gave corn to man, was content to sow it; he left the care of grinding, sifting, and kneading it to others.'"

JOHN CORBIN,
Dramatic Critic of the N.Y. *Times*, says: "Now is the chance for the young playwright."

SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE "DEGENERACY" OF THE DRAMA.

FROM many quarters come reports of an unsuccessful winter for the drama. The season is little more than two months old, and already ten dramatic companies are reported to have come to grief. Mr. John Corbin, dramatic critic of the New York *Times*, attributes present depressing conditions to three main causes: (1) The lack of good foreign plays; (2) the inability of the native playwright to rise to the occasion; and (3) the pinch of hard times. He writes (in *The Times*, November 29):

"A glance through the empty playhouses of Broadway will reveal a multitude of pieces in which life counts for nothing and the age-old tricks of the playhouse are everything. The dramatized novel is sure to show the blight of the manager's artificial hand. 'The Spenders,' 'Hearts Courageous,' 'Japhet in Search of a Father,' 'John Ermine,' 'The Light That Failed,' 'Lady Rose's Daughter,' 'A Japanese Nightingale'—one and all relied, or seemed to rely, for atmosphere and characters upon the spectator's remembrance of the book; the scenes were filled up with an alternation of windy dialogue and played-out 'business,' and the curtains were brought down upon cheaply artificial 'situations.' Of one of these pieces, 'John Ermine,' it is known that as first written it was neatly constructed and far from lacking in fresh character and authentic atmospheric color. But the actor-manager did all that in the effort to gain the momentary effect. Several men of taste who had read the author's version rubbed their eyes in amazement at what was placed before the footlights. Those familiar with the fate of the plays of unknown authors are aware that the case is not exceptional, but characteristic. The failures of this and of most other seasons are due to cheap stage artifice. 'Major André' was written years ago, when Mr. Fitch was at his most theatrical. 'Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner' could not have been more theatrical if it were a dramatized novel. 'Personal' and 'Captain Barrington' revealed in every phase that they were conceived and written by stage managers. Only two book-plays, so far as can be judged, have had any real success. 'The Pretty Sister of José' has been floated into popularity by Miss Maude Adams. 'Raffles,' cheap tho it is in places, is witty and has a

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firmly constructed spine. The simple fact is that the managers have run their playhouse rules of thumb into the ground. While money was plenty and theaters were relatively few, almost anything paid. But the moment the pinch was felt, it burst the bubble."

All of which leads Mr. Corbin to the conclusion that "now, if ever, is the chance for the young playwright." "A good new play is the thing managers long for, cry for, fight for, and even die for." We quote further:

"If the young American playwright fails to make his place, the fault rests even more clearly than ever with himself alone. Very few men are born to be playwrights—even fewer than are born to be poets. The best of critics or the best of novelists may (and generally do) write the very dullest of plays. But there are ten potential playwrights for every one who has as yet made his way to the front in America; and there never was a better chance to come to the front than now."

Clara Morris, the well-known actress and writer, is inclined to take a hopeful view of the dramatic situation. Writing in *The Theatre* (December), under the title "Has the Drama Degenerated?" she says:

"If civilization and education are of any use in elevating mankind, our social conditions ought to be superior to any that has ever existed. We believe that they are, and we have good reason for our belief. Our drama shares in this well-being—but, of course, it deals in aberrations. All interesting occurrences are aberrations, and many of these are aberrations from the straight rule of rectitude. Philologists tell us that 'right' in nearly all languages means something in the nature of a straight line, which is the shortest connective between two points, therefore greatly to be desired. And then the mathematical philosophers tell us that no man ever yet constructed a perfectly straight line, nor ever will.

"Now since everybody is perpetually trying to go from one point to another, and can not go in absolutely straight lines, the variable courses of humanity are not only infinite, but infinitely interesting: and a well-built play is nothing but the following out of one or more of these curved lines of progression.

"Of necessity, in noting down and rendering into dramatic form these aberrations, there is always the risk of disturbing the adjustment of the sense of propriety of certain individuals. Just how far we can exercise the function of the fabled Asmodeus, and take the roofs off from houses in order to study the habits of the inmates, is a question impossible to answer. The proper and the improper, the fit and the unfit, are relative terms; and neither a transcendental nor a mathematical philosophy will give us the terms of the desired equation. But we plant ourselves on firm ground in saying that if the analysis of human action in any play shocks the moral sense of the community, the community will communicate to the manager and actors and the author its opinion in terms not to be disregarded.

CLARA MORRIS.

"The drama," she says, "deals in aberrations. All interesting occurrences are aberrations, and many of these are aberrations from the straight rule of rectitude."

"That our modern stage is degenerating into burlesque is a statement frequently made, and yet too silly to be seriously noted. There is a time to dance as well as a time to refrain from dancing. In a fit place and at a fit time burlesque is desirable. If, as Shakespeare says, there are occasions when 'Seneca can not be too heavy,' it is also true that on other occasions 'Plautus can not be too light.'

"Certainly, in regard to our modern stage, we need not go in sackcloth and ashes over fancied evils."

THE CHILD IN BOOKS.

MISS AGNES REPPLIER, the well-known author, discerns a tendency toward a new form of fiction. It has to do with the life of boys and girls, and "proposes to break down the barriers which have always existed between childhood and adolescence." "It can not make children understand us," she says, "their blessed indifference saves them from the trial—but we are now to see, through the medium of print, how these mysterious little creatures, so decorative and so exasperating, people their own strange world." She continues (in *Life*, October 29):

"No thought could have been further than this from the minds of the exemplary writers who penned our first nursery classics. Their aim was the improvement of youth. And nothing could be more remote from the efforts of industrious analysts, whose field is the training of parents. The new fiction is not ethical. It has no affiliations with the kindergarten, nor with the Mothers' Congress. It is not destined to popularity in these sacred precincts. It is not to be labeled 'helpful.' It merely tries to give us a keyhole glimpse through the impalpable door, behind which the hidden children play.

"The success which has attended this innovation in letters may be due partly to its novelty, and partly to the sore straits in which the idle reader finds himself when seeking recreation from books. But it can not be denied that the child in literature, like the child in art, is, when well presented, a most engaging object. That excellent adage, 'Children should be seen and not heard,' has a deeper significance than nursery ethics warrant. Who can look upon the little, pinched, and peevish Spanish princesses whom Velasquez painted for our lifelong joy, or upon the riotous piety of Murillo's baby angels, without sensations of deep delight and gratitude; delight that we have them on canvas, and gratitude that we are spared them in the flesh. There is an enchanting old fresco in Pisa which represents little Ishmael pulling little Isaac's hair, and butting his head into little Isaac's stomach, while Hagar smirks contentedly at her son's prowess, and Sarah points out to weary old Abraham the misbehavior of his eldest-born. To stand before that fresco for a few moments, to realize its truthfulness to nature, and then to turn safely and tranquilly away, is alone worth the journey to Pisa.

"In precisely the same spirit we read about the unchastened little boys and girls whom Mr. Kenneth Graham first made popular, and who have since obtained such prominence in print. They are—or at least they seem to be—real children; as real as the Bourbon princesses, or the unregenerate Ishmael. We are permitted to see them only in sudden flashes of illumination, for no adult can pretend truly to know a child. The narrowness of our field of vision at once quickens our interest and soothes our apprehension. Mr. James Payn, the novelist, was wont to maintain that a boy in a book was endurable because of his dissimilarity to a boy in life; but Mr. Payn was at no time a very subtle

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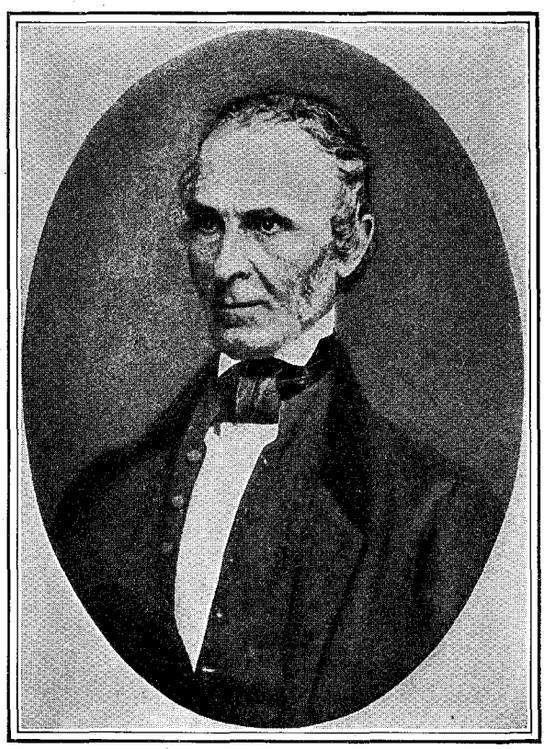
analyst. A boy in a book is adorable because of his close similarity to a boy in life, and because he *is* in a book, and not in life. There is a keen, subconscious pleasure in the knowledge that we can at any moment close the volume and stand it safe and silent upon the library shelf."

A NEW ESTIMATE OF WHITTIER.

IT is as a poet that the present generation conceives Whittier, and one reads with surprise the statement of his recent biographer, Prof. George R. Carpenter, of Columbia University, that the main interest of Whittier's life was politics rather than literature, and that this interest was perpetuated even after the anti-slavery cause, to which he was early devoted, had triumphed. Says his biographer:

"He still watched the affairs of the state and the nation, and gave counsel freely as befitted one grown old in political service. He exerted himself to counteract the bitter feeling against Sumner, which arose after his attack on Grant's administration in 1872; and he was foremost in the persistent effort that resulted in annulling the Massachusetts resolutions of censure against him for his proposition that the names of battles in the Civil War should not be borne on the flags of national regiments. He urged the education of the negro and the Indian; he praised Gordon, soldier tho he was; he interested himself in several minor causes; he wrote in commendation or in suggestion to prominent government officials and to great politicians; he was consulted in district and state affairs. Too old to change his vote when the reaction against the Republicans set in, he yet felt the force of the counter-movement, and respected its best motives."



JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER.
The main interest of his life, says Professor Carpenter, was politics rather than literature.

It is not surprising, then, that this political interest should indirectly be the source of his finest poetical achievement. Professor Carpenter thus estimates the ballad for which Whittier is best known:

"The poetry of any permanent value produced by the war, both in the North and in the South, is very small in quantity, and may, perhaps, be regarded as virtually reducing itself to Whitman's 'My Captain,' Lowell's 'Commemoration Ode,' and Whittier's 'Barbara Frietchie.' The first is possibly the greatest, in that it is the most direct and spontaneous translation of the emotion of a people into beautiful imagery; the second is the thoughtful exposition by the scholar and the statesman of the national retrospect; the third is the only ballad of the conflict, North or South, that has found its way to the hearts of the people. The alleged facts on which 'Barbara Frietchie' was founded have been somewhat hotly discussed; but it is clear that Whittier was guiltless of distorting in any way the incident as it was reported to him, and that, furthermore, whether the supposed incident actually occurred or not is of no importance. It was rumored to have occurred, and the rumor was accepted as a fitting image of a real and great emotion of the people. For the incident and the poem are nothing but Webster's federalist speeches put into ballad form, nothing but a type of the great fact of a common nationality which both sections were forgetting. The Stars and Stripes seemed to the South to stand for unjust interference with the rights of certain States, and it became to them, as to the Union army, not the symbol of the country, but only of the North. The gray-haired woman, herself a reminder of the epoch when sectional differences did not exist, by her loyalty to the old standard under circumstances where it was regarded only as a hostile emblem, is thus the incarnation of the honor due, both North and South, to the banner of our fathers, an honor in these later years now again paid throughout our land. The rebuke offered to the South was sectional in its appeal; it was unjust in its inference that General Jackson was not acting a noble part in his defense of his State. But a popular ballad can not be delicate in its shading. The 'rebel' leader must feel the blush of shame, just as he must melodramatically order a company to shoot at a flag, instead of quietly instructing a corporal to have it removed. The power of the poem now, and its high significance then, lay not merely in its perfect form, but in the direction which it gave the thoughts of every reader toward the idea of national unity."

When the burden of his political cause was lifted, Whittier turned to the composition of narrative poetry, which shows the influence of Longfellow in manner, but not in subject. Unlike his contemporary, Whittier chose American and New England themes rather than European. "He loved Oriental apologues, as befitted one who read travels greedily, and whose trend of thought was ethical, and was skilful in framing them; he dwelt with most affection on native legends, and was most successful in treating them." To quote Professor Carpenter further on this point of comparison between the two New England poets:

"In ballad-making, as I have remarked, Whittier owes much to Longfellow; for tho he was himself a pioneer in the field, he for a time well-nigh deserted it, whereas Longfellow came to it fresh from the narrative romances of Europe and with abundant leisure. But in the native ballad, when he returned to cultivate it, Whittier far surpassed Longfellow in force and in truth. Longfellow's eyes were turned Europe-ward, and he wrote of his old land like a half-familiar stranger. Whittier's smallest phrase is accurately true to fact, to tradition, or to our sense of the typical and probable. Beneath the artistic form lies the firm skeleton of history, as beneath the often fanciful Norse saga is plainly to be felt the presence of actual locality, incident, and personality. He realized, too, like the wise antiquary, the limitations of the colonial civilization—its prejudice and cruelty, its crudeness and barrenness."

In respect to the adverse criticism passed upon Whittier's verse, Professor Carpenter assents to its justice as regards three principal points—unequal value, a tendency to moralize, and loose rimes; but he adds the following qualifications:

"Inequality in poetic work, however, does not deeply concern the contemporary reading public or that of posterity. We have only to put aside the trivial and to retain the worthy, thankful for whatever remains after the sifting. A moralizing poet, to touch on the second point for an instant, Whittier certainly was, nor can we imagine him as anything widely different. The reforming element belonged to the essence of his nature; and he was in this respect typical of New England. We must frankly accept him as he was. Whitman, whose point of view was so opposite, judged him wisely. 'Whittier's poetry,' he said in a letter to Mr. Kennedy, 'stands for morality . . . as filtered through the positive Puritanical and Quaker filters; is very valuable as a genuine utterance. . . . Whittier is rather a grand figure—pretty lean and ascetic, no Greek—also not composite and universal enough (doesn't wish to be, doesn't try to be) for ideal Americanism.' Lastly, Whittier's apparently inaccurate rimes are sometimes due to his fidelity to the pronunciation with which he was familiar. More frequently they are due to the fact that his ear was often pleased, as is mine, by an approximate rime, or by a rough as-

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sonance. The critics forget that in this particular the public is largely, and has always been, on his side. Minute accuracy in rime seems to me a somewhat pedantic and bookish notion."

A CANDID CRITICISM OF DICKENS.

LET it be granted of any given writer that "his prose style is as bad as possible"; that "his sentimental passages are nauseating"; that "he did not understand women"; that "his would-be fine writing is absurd," and that "his melodrama too often makes us yawn." There would be nothing left of the reputation of most writers after postulates so sweeping as these had been granted. Nevertheless, in the opinion of Prof. Walter Frewen Lord, a contributor to *The Nineteenth Century* (November), "we may say all this of Charles Dickens and yet leave his reputation unharmed." Professor Lord writes:

"What quality, then, in Charles Dickens—in whom his most ardent admirers admitted faults, many and grave—commended our Englishman to men so diverse? Surely it was his abounding love of his kind. If the inspiration of Thackeray was mockery, the inspiration of Dickens was love. To say that is not to say the last word. When the late Mr. Matthew Arnold somewhat condescendingly remarked that to France much must be pardoned because she loved much, the late Sir James Stephen commented that it was precisely France's way of loving mankind that most irritated him. He did not use the expression that I am about to employ; but his comments clearly pointed to the conclusion that, if love is a great and admirable fact, there is a certain parody of love called gush, which is neither great nor admirable.

"Here we have, perhaps, the strength and weakness of Charles Dickens explained. His love of mankind, tremendous driving force as it was, invested his creations with a vitality unparalleled in fiction. It also drove him into writing passages that make us feel positively ill.

"For example, toward the close of 'Dombey and Son' it is Florence Dombey who speaks. She is about to address Walter Gay.

"She sat looking at him for a moment, then timidly put her trembling hand in his.

"'If you will take me for your wife, Walter, I will love you dearly. If you will let me go with you, Walter, I will go to the world's end without fear. I can give up nothing for you, I have nothing to resign, and no one to forsake; but all my love and life shall be devoted to you, and with my last breath I will breathe your name to God if I have sense and memory left.' He caught her to his heart, and laid her cheek against his own, and now, no more repulsed, no more forlorn, she wept indeed upon the breast of her dear lover.

"Blessed Sunday bells, ringing so tranquilly in their entranced and happy ears! Blessed Sunday peace and quiet, harmonizing with the calmness in their souls, and making holy air around them. Blessed twilight stealing on and shading her so soothingly and gravely, as she falls asleep, like a hushed child, upon the bosom she has clung to.

"Oh, load of love and trustfulness that lies so lightly there. Aye, look down on the closed eyes, Walter, with a proudly tender gaze; for in all the wide, wide world they seek but thee now—only thee!'

"Words fail one to do justice to a passage like this. Fortunately another passage from the master's pen may be cited to save the situation. 'And what did Lord Nobley say to that?' 'Why! he didn't know what to say. Damme, sir, if he wasn't as mute as a poker!'"

Dickens, we are told, "had little or no sense of beauty"; and "when we seek in the world of painting for some brother artist whose name may be experimentally bracketed with that of Charles Dickens, we instinctively think of the Dutchmen." The writer says further:

"But we ought to remember the vulgarity of much of Jan Steen, and Ostade, and Teniers, and the grossness of which even greater men could be capable. Dickens had none of this, and while we can hardly venture to place him with Rembrandt, we most cordially admit that he was superior to all but the first-rate Dutchmen.

"That helps us. If he had no sense of beauty, and no more of taste than saved him from grossness, if his idealizations are unconvincing, at least his naturalism is unrivaled. As an example of the failure of his idealizations let us recall Turner's 'Rain, Steam, and Speed on the G. W. R.' and then contemplate the following passage:

"'Away with a shriek, and a roar, and a rattle, from the town, burrowing among the dwellings of men and making the streets hum, flashing out into the meadows for a moment, mining in through the damp earth, burrowing on in darkness and heavy air, bursting out again into the sunny day so bright and wide; away with a shriek, and a roar, and a rattle, through the fields, through the woods, through the corn, through the hay, through the chalk, through the mold, through the clay, through the rock, among objects close at hand and almost in the grasp, ever flying from the traveler, and a deceitful distance ever moving slowly with him; like as in the track of the remorseless monster, Death!'

"There is a great deal more of this exclamatory prose: perhaps four times as much again as the passage above cited. It is clear that Dickens himself watched the railway train—a new thing when he wrote—with the most intense delight. It is also clear that he gives us not the faintest impression of the romance of the railway. An enumeration of the component parts of the engine would be equally effective. Yet the runaway train at the end of the 'Débâcle' shows how tremendous can be the impression conveyed by a skilful artist (and Zola could be a consummate artist when he chose) in prose, with no more interesting subject than an express-train."

Professor Lord writes in conclusion:

"We may say of his work, as a whole, what Turguenef said of 'Le Nabab,' that it may be described as being in some parts very great, while much of it is hackwork. If there is something in Dickens that we would prefer to forget, there is at least as much that we can not forget if we would. He is often a caricaturist, but at least as often he is far above all caricaturists. His place is not with the greatest artists. He does not live with the Veroneses and the Titians, but he is far apart from the Caraccisti. He is hardly Rembrandt, but we can not leave him with the Jan Steens and the Ostades. He is not academic; he remained to the last untrained, undrilled, recognizing no models, consciously or unconsciously, one would even say that he despised them. As a result, he often created, and he often driveled. He cheers us beyond any other writer that ever lived; and he bores us worse than the daily newspaper. He stands alone: Charles Dickens."

NOTES.

THOMAS HARDY is writing a six-act drama. The subject has not been announced.

VICTOR HERBERT has resigned his position as conductor of the Pittsburg Orchestra, to assume the leadership of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

Pro Cingulo Veritas ("For a Girdle, Truth") is the title of a new quarterly journal devoted to the Ruskin gospel and published by Mr. Frederick Parsons at Concord, Mass.

THE latest news concerning Ibsen's health is of a serious kind. A Vienna doctor who recently visited him in Christiania reports that "he has practically lost his speech." The doctor says further: "Also his faculties are impaired. His loss of memory is particularly noticeable. In consequence of these defects he can not work. Ibsen is, in fact, completely broken up. He presents the picture of a helpless old man."

THE death of Henry Seton Merriman (Hugh Stowell Scott) removes a novelist who was well known on both sides of the Atlantic. Mr. Merriman first came into public prominence through the publication of his novel, "In Kedar's Tents," in 1897. Since that time "With Edged Tools" and "The Sowers" have had large sales. His last book, "Barlasch of the Guard," was published only a few weeks ago.

TWELVE hundred authors have united, under the leadership of the Society of American Authors, in preparing a demand that Congress shall grant to manuscript matter in the mails the same privilege as is now granted to printed matter. The movement is backed by Senator Lodge and Representative Hill, of Connecticut, and the committee which is organizing the campaign includes Poultney Bigelow, Orlando J. Smith, the Rev. Dr. Isaac K. Funk, and the Rev. Dr. George C. Lorimer.

A NEW experiment in publishing has been undertaken by Mr. Howard Wilford Bell, of New York, who announces his intention of issuing monthly "the permanent books of all literatures presented to American readers in the best obtainable English versions." The series is to be known as "The Unit Books" and opens with the "Letters and Addresses of Abraham Lincoln" and "The Marble Faun." The price of the books is to be determined in this way: One cent is charged for every twenty-five pages of printed matter. A paper wrapper is given with the printed sheets. The cloth cover is thirty cents additional, and the leather binding fifty cents additional, to the price of the sheets. The quality of the book-making is such as to recommend it to the cultivated taste.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

SEX-CHARACTERISTICS IN HANDWRITING.

NOTHING nowadays can escape capture by the investigators and reduction to percentages and probabilities; and when other scientific men "fight shy" of a subject, it generally falls a prey to the psychologists, who are claiming for their own a considerable region of what was once "no-man's-land." Thus we find M. Alfred Binet, the eminent French psychologist, investigating with painstaking care the subject of "graphology," the so-called science of the determination of character from handwriting. In spite of the somewhat dubious character of the graphologist's calling, M. Binet has come to the conclusion that there is "something in it," and he announces his intention of going a little further in his experimental study. M. Binet describes his methods and results in *La Revue* (October 1), but the following paragraphs are translated from an abstract in *La Nature* (October 24) by Henri de Parville, the editor. Says M. de Parville:

"People have long been asking how much truth there is in graphology. Is it really able to reveal a person's character? Some say Yes; others, No. In fact, we might discuss the subject for a long time without throwing much light on it. M. Alfred Binet, director of the psychophysiological laboratory of the Sorbonne, while avowing that the problem is a difficult one, believes nevertheless that it may be solved, and he begins by examining the question of sex in handwriting. May the sex of a person be recognized from the chirography?

"M. Binet has performed some interesting experiments on this special point. He has made these on simple addresses written by women and men, and not on whole letters, whose contents might give hints of the writers' sex. He took all sorts of precautions to avoid guiding the expert. He mixed addresses of women written by women, and those of men by men, with those of men by women and women by men, fearing lest the sex of the addresses might by suggestion influence the writing of the sender. Finally he sent his collection of one hundred and eighty envelopes, half feminine and half masculine, to professional graphologists, and also to unskilled persons. . . . . .

"The graphologists, of course, brought to bear on the problem the special methods of their calling; the others judged without any particular method and somewhat by sentiment, without explaining their decisions otherwise. M. Crepieu-Jamin [one of the experts] bases his opinions on facts that may be thus summed up: The handwriting of women is slovenly, often ungainly and careless; there are often slim or bent forms or pretentious and complex ones. Abnormal height of the small letters, especially in *s* and *r* and the stem of *p*, is found quite habitually in the handwriting of women and very rarely in that of men. It is the same with long finals. With man clearness, firmness, sureness, simplicity, and sobriety of line are characteristic. The simplification that is a graphological sign of mental culture is much more frequent with men. We find also much less careless writing in men than in women. Here doubtless, according to the graphologists, we have a basis for the study of handwriting.

"So much having been said, let us examine the results. We should note at the outset that the problem as put admits of but two solutions. Chance thus would be likely to lead to fifty per cent. of correct answers. To arrive at any conclusion, therefore, the correct answers must sensibly exceed this proportion. Now, M. Jamin succeeded in answering correctly 141 times out of the 180, or a percentage of 78.8. He gave reasons for his decisions, and often indicated the degree of probability of his determinations of sex. The form of certain final capital letters was invoked 66 times correctly and 12 times wrongly. The abnormal elevation of certain letters formed a basis of right judgment 25 times and of wrong decision only 12 times. The clearness, sobriety, and simplicity of the writing were appealed to 48 times correctly and 8 times incorrectly.

"The decisions of another expert, M. Éloi, which were arrived at in ways similar to the preceding, gave a percentage of 75. A curious fact regarding M. Jamin is that one of his decisions having been declared incorrect by M. Binet, the graphologist maintained energetically that he was right, and investigation showed that he was so, M. Binet having been mistaken.

"These results lead Binet to conclude that graphologists are right in affirming that handwriting has sexual characteristics, and that these are sufficient to determine the sex of the writer in many cases. It is true that, thus formulated, the conclusion was to have been expected. Graphology, subject to error tho it may be, is none the less a science of observation, and should often lead to exact deductions.

"And those who were ignorant of graphology? Well, they, too, often did very well. The percentage of correct answers varied from 65 to 73. This latter proportion was reached thrice. Strictly we should conclude that the most skilful of the uninstructed were inferior to the graphologists; but their inferiority was surely slight. Of course the practise, the training, the habit of comparison, all give the graphologists an advantage. But, on the other hand, this generality of appreciation seems to argue in favor of the existence of sexual characteristics in handwriting.

"Some of the writers intentionally disguised their hands. In these cases there was generally an error in the decision. M. Binet gives an instance where fifteen persons took a specimen to be a woman's, while only one correctly said that it was a man's. This man was an old coachman of seventy years. The writing of the aged seems to be full of snares. . . . But it should be noted that M. Jamin often indicated age as well as sex in his answers, and generally with correctness.

"These first experiments of M. Binet are interesting, but in our estimation, in order that they may lead to a truly scientific conclusion, they should have been undertaken on a larger scale and under varying conditions. What result should we have with the handwriting of very learned women accustomed to foreign languages, with female doctors of science, astronomers, etc.? We should also compare the writing of foreigners, male and female. M. Binet intends to follow up this preliminary study and to investigate next age as shown in handwriting.

"We shall see what will come of it. Meanwhile the figures are puzzling—the success of professionals in 78 per cent. of cases; that of non-professionals in 73 per cent. . . . There must apparently be really a feminine and a masculine handwriting whose general characteristics are sufficiently pronounced to enable any person, even if unskilled, to distinguish between them."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CAN THE LABORATORY TELL US WHAT TO EAT?

THE following note of warning is uttered by *The Hospital* against too implicit trust in laboratory experiments as a guide to practical rules for diet. Says the writer of an editorial in that paper:

"It must be remembered that not all the purposes of food are susceptible of estimate by the tests of the physiologist. He may, it is true, group and classify foods in reference to their tissue-forming or energy-yielding functions, but there are subtle ends to be seved for which, at present at least, he has no standards. Thus it can hardly be doubted that in the development of certain mental qualities which have most directly subserved the progress of the race food habits have played an important part. And there need be little hesitation in suggesting that were, for example, the Anglo-Saxon peoples promptly to accommodate their habits to the claims of what physiology would define as dietetic righteousness, the racial characteristics of succeeding generations would be profoundly modified. It is equally obvious, unless the beneficial trend of evolution is to be denied, that such modifications would not be in the direction of improvement.

"This consideration introduces another element where scientific tests fail. Experimental work in the laboratory is concerned with individuals. It may show what foods promote growth, and weight, and muscular capacity, and may suggest by inference that such foods favor health and long life. But this is too narrow a view from which to attempt the solution of the food problem. The weight and height of the individual, even his good health and long life, do not mean necessarily the welfare of the race. It may be essential that the individual should 'wither' in order that 'the world' may be 'more and more.' Good health and long life are not ends in themselves. They are valuable only because they mean opportunities for work and achievement. It is not long life, but strenuous life, that makes 'the great world spin forever down the ringing grooves of change.' Those food habits are valuable, therefore, which promote national energy, and enterprise, and

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force of character, qualities which do not respond to scientific measurements.

"It is not here contended that a science of dietetics is of no value. On the contrary, the study of recognized food habits may provide both interesting and useful information. It may determine what share each habit plays in the promotion of human well-being. In some it may discover that evil is mixed with good, and may be able to suggest means by which the benefit may be obtained without alloy. But the method must be inductive, not deductive. It must start from the position that in what is practised by large numbers of men free to choose, there is without doubt some element of value. The accumulated experiences of innumerable generations are not to be dismissed by the formulas of the laboratory. It is not these latter alone which can claim an experimental basis. What man has learned in the struggle for existence has a position not less secure than the conclusions of the physiological chemist. The latter may define food values, or some of them, in terms of science, but he can not successfully set his analyses and experiments against customs which are the outcome of the matured experiences of the race. It is with these that the final word rests. There remains for the physiologist a task of much interest. His function, in brief, is not to prescribe our habits, but to explain them."

FERTILIZING SOIL WITH BACTERIA.

SOIL that will not bear crops is suffering from starvation. This may be remedied by properly "feeding" it with fertilizers; but in certain cases the trouble may also be cured, like some diseases, by inoculation. In other words, soil deficient in nitrogenous matter may be treated with cultures of certain bacteria that enable plants to absorb and utilize atmospheric nitrogen, as has been shown in Germany by Professor Nobbe. Fertilizing material sufficient for an acre may now be purchased in a small glass bottle. Ray Stannard Baker tells in *Harper's Magazine* just how this discovery was made and how it has been utilized. According to Mr. Baker, it had its beginning in the earlier discovery that plants are fed largely from substances in the air and from consequent study of the problem of how the plant is able to appropriate this aerial food. Says the writer:

"The chief chemical elements in all vegetable substances are oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen. . . . Nitrogen is the all-important element. Potassium and phosphorus are usually present in abundance, or they can be easily supplied in the form of wood-ashes and other fertilizers; but nitrogen is more expensive and more difficult to restore. Nitrogen is what makes the muscles and brain of a man; it is the essential element of all elements in the growth of animals and plants. . . . If the world ever starves, it will be from lack of nitrogen; and yet if such starvation takes place, it will be in a world full of nitrogen. For there is not one of the elements more common than nitrogen, not one present around us in larger quantities. Four-fifths of every breath of air we breathe is pure nitrogen—four-fifths of all the earth's atmosphere is nitrogen. If mankind dies of nitrogen starvation, it will die with food everywhere about it and within it.

"But unfortunately plants and animals are unable to take up nitrogen in its pure form as it appears in the air. It must be combined with hydrogen in the form of ammonia or in some nitrate. These facts have been well known to science for many years. At the same time it has been known, as a matter of experience among farmers, that when land is worn out by overcropping, with wheat or oats, for instance, both of which draw heavily on the earth's nitrogen supply, certain other crops would still grow luxuriantly upon it, and that if these crops are left and plowed in, the fertility of the soil will be restored, and it will again produce large fields of wheat and other nitrogen-demanding plants. These restorative crops are clover, lupin, and other leguminous plants—a classification including beans and peas. Every one who is at all familiar with farming operations has heard of seeding down an old field to clover, thereby restoring its fertility in a degree."

That this property of clover, beans, etc., is due to small nodules growing on their roots, and that these are produced by so-called "nitrifying" bacteria, is now known to all students of scientific agriculture. Acting on this knowledge, Professor Nobbe has developed his plan for soil-inoculation. Says Mr. Baker:

"If these nodules were produced by bacteria, then the bacteria must be present in the soil; and if they were not present, would it not be possible to supply them by artificial means? In other words, if soil, even worn-out farm soil—or, indeed, pure sand, like that of the seashore—could thus be inoculated, as a physician inoculates a guinea-pig with anthrax germs, would not beans and peas planted there form nodules and draw their nourishment from the air? It was a somewhat startling idea; but all radically new ideas are startling, and after thinking it over, Professor Nobbe began, in 1888, a series of most remarkable experiments, having as their purpose the discovery of a practical method of soil-inoculation. He gathered the nodule-covered roots of beans and peas, dried and crushed them, and made an extract of them in water. Then he prepared a gelatin solution with a little sugar, asparagin, and other materials, and added the nodule extract. In this medium colonies of bacteria at once began to grow—bacteria of many kinds. Professor Nobbe separated the radiocola—which are oblong in shape—and made what is known as a 'clean culture'—that is, a culture in gelatin consisting of billions of these particular germs and no others. When he had succeeded in producing these clean cultures, he was ready for his actual experiments in growing plants. He took a quantity of pure sand, and in order to be sure that it contained no nitrogen, nor bacteria in any form, he heated it to a high temperature three different times for six hours, thereby completely sterilizing it. This sand he placed in three jars. To each of these he added a small quantity of mineral food—the required phosphorus, potassium, iron, sulfur, and so on. To the first he supplied no nitrogen at all in any form; the second he fertilized with saltpeter, which is largely composed of nitrogen in a form in which plants may readily absorb it through their roots; the third of the jars he inoculated with some of his bacteria culture. Then he planted beans and awaited the results—as may be imagined, somewhat anxiously."

The beans in the first jar, we are told, starved for want of nitrogenous food, exactly as a man would starve under the same conditions. Those in the second jar grew about as they would in the garden. But the third, or "inoculated," jar showed really a miracle of growth. The soil in this jar was originally as free of nitrogen as the soil in the first jar, and yet the beans flourished greatly, and when some of the plants were analyzed, they were found to be rich in nitrogen. Nodules had formed on the roots of the beans in the third jar only, thereby proving that soil-inoculation was a possibility—at least in the laboratory. Mr. Baker goes on to say:

"Having thus proved the remarkable efficacy of soil-inoculation in his laboratory and greenhouses, where I saw great numbers of experiments still going forward, Professor Nobbe set himself to make his discoveries of practical value. He gave to his bacteria cultures the name 'Nitragen'—spelled with an a—and he produced separate cultures for each of the important crops—peas, beans, vetch, lupin, and clover. In 1894 the first of these were placed on the market, and they had a considerable sale, altho such a radical innovation as this, so far out of the ordinary run of agricultural operation, and so almost unbelievably wonderful, can not be expected to spread very rapidly. The cultures are now manufactured at one of the great commercial chemical laboratories of the river Main. I saw some of them in Professor Nobbe's laboratory. They were put up in small glass bottles, each marked with the name of the crop for which it is especially adapted. The bottle was partly filled with the yellow gelatinous substance in which the bacteria grow. On the surface of this there was a mossylike gray growth, resembling mold. This consisted of innumerable millions of the little oblong bacteria. A bottle cost about fifty cents, and contained enough bacteria for inoculating half an acre of land. It must be used within a certain number of weeks after it is obtained, while it is still fresh. The method of application is very simple. The contents of the bottle are diluted with warm water. Then the seeds of the beans, clover, or peas, which have previously been mixed with a little soil, are treated with this solution and thoroughly mixed with the soil. After that the mass is partially dried so that the seeds may be readily sown. The bacteria at once begin to propagate in the soil, which is their natural home, and by the time the beans or peas have put out roots they

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are present in vast numbers, and ready to begin the active work of forming nodules. . . . . .

"Prompted by these experiments, a valuable series of tests has recently been made by the United States Department of Agriculture, and an improved method for distributing the bacteria has been devised. Instead of a moist culture in glass tubes the bacteria are put up in a small dry mass that resembles a yeast-cake. These may be sent anywhere without deterioration; a little soaking is all that is needed to prepare them for use in the soil. The Department is now formulating a plan for introducing these cultures extensively in localities in this country which are deficient in nodule-forming germs."

PRINTING PHOTOGRAPHS WITHOUT LIGHT.

A PROCESS in which permanent positive prints are obtained from a photographic negative without using either light or sensitized paper has been invented by Ostwald and Gros, of Leipsic, Germany. The prints, to which the inventors have given the name of "katatypes," are produced by aid of the obscure chemical phenomenon known as katalysis. Says a writer on the subject in *The Scientific American* (November 28):

"By katalysis is meant the production of a chemical reaction by means of a substance which itself undergoes no chemical change. The first known instance is the conversion of starch into sugar by treatment with acids, the latter being found unchanged and undiminished in quantity in the final mixture.

"Another case is the explosion of mixed hydrogen and oxygen in the presence of finely divided platinum.

"Recent experiments on the speed of chemical reactions have thrown a little light into the darkness of this mysterious katalysis, and it is now believed that all such reactions would take place of themselves, but with almost infinite slowness, and that the function of the katalyzer is to make the reaction rapid enough to be perceptible to our senses. Possibly, it overcomes some unknown resistance to the reaction, thus acting as a sort of chemical unguent. Now most of the chemical changes which are apparently wrought by light are of this sort. They take place, tho slowly, in the dark. Every photographer knows this from experience. His bichromated paper becomes useless in a few days, his plates in a few months or years.

"The function of light in photography, then, is simply that of an accelerator, a katalyzer, and it may be replaced by other katalyzers. Now there are few better katalyzers than the layer of finely divided silver which forms a photographic negative picture, and there are few substances more susceptible of katalytic action than peroxid of hydrogen, which, despite its excess of oxygen and its resultant tendency to split up into oxygen and water, is entirely permanent under normal conditions.

"This is the theory of the katatype. Its practise is as follows:

"The negative is flowed with an ethereal solution of peroxid of hydrogen. The peroxid is instantly decomposed more or less completely wherever it comes in contact with the silver film, and the evaporation of the resulting water leaves on the plate an invisible picture in unaltered peroxid, which is densest where the negative is least dense, and is, therefore, a positive. As peroxid of hydrogen is both an oxidizer and a deoxidizer and lends itself to many chemical reactions, the subsequent processes are of great variety. The simplest consists in transferring the picture by slight pressure to gelatin-coated paper which is flowed with ferrous sulfate, washed, and treated with gallic acid, the result being a dark-violet and very permanent picture—in fact, a picture in writing-ink. . . . . .

"A similar process is employed for the production of gelatin plates for printing in lithographic ink.

"The advantages claimed for the katatype are that it makes the photographer independent of the uncertainty of natural, and the inconvenience and expense of artificial light, and that it dispenses with all sensitized and, therefore, perishable papers.

"The result is the same whether the plate is flowed in bright sunlight or in absolute darkness."

IN the course of an article on Interatomic Energy, published in a recent issue of the *Revue Scientifique*, M. Gustave Le Bon states that recent measurements made by Curie have shown that Rutherford's estimate of the rate at which energy is liberated by radium is far too low. Could the whole of its energy be usefully utilized, about fifteen pounds of radium would keep a one horse-power engine continuously at work for many centuries."

ENGINEERING DIFFICULTIES OF THE PANAMA CANAL.

SEÑOR PHILLIPPE BUNAU-VARILLA, the minister of the new Republic of Panama to the United States, is an eminent civil engineer as well as a diplomat, having been a director of public works in Tunis (under the French Government), and later having been employed on the isthmus, in his professional capacity, by the original (French) Panama Canal Company. He writes briefly and in a popular way of the present situation presented by the canal from an engineering point of view. We quote from his article in *The Independent* (November 26), first as to the climate and its effects upon the work already done:

"Engineers who are familiar with the topography and climatic conditions which prevail at Panama will, I think, agree with me in the statement that the climate especially is very favorable to the maintenance of such a waterway. This may appear strange when the great amount of humidity is taken into consideration, also the temperature; but it must be remembered that at Panama there is no frost and that the damage which may be caused by extreme heat in connection with extreme cold is entirely averted. Some of the most substantial public works, such as canal-retaining walls and embankments, have been most seriously affected merely from the fact that they were built in a country where they were subjected to the action of the elements in the form of rain and snow and to the freezing of moisture with which they became impregnated, this force of nature affecting them seriously. The very fact that during so many months of the year the temperature at Panama is what Americans consider high, is a point in favor of the canal, as the heat tends to harden the clays which form such an extensive portion of the natural bed of the waterway, so that the formation really becomes harder by the action of time, provided no extraordinary occurrence cause disintegration.

"I believe I can safely say that little or no dredging, for example, will be required to deepen the completed canal to the dimensions which were obtained in the original operations, for we have in the Chagres River a friendly rather than an inimical force. The swift current of this stream, which passes along the route in such volume at different seasons of the year, scours the channel, driving the sand and other sediment before it and forcing this material out to sea."

The Culebra cut, Señor Bunau-Varilla goes on to say, is far less formidable now than it seemed at first, because of the development in recent years of apparatus for such work. Another great improvement over the situation as it originally presented itself is the use of the electric current. On this point he writes:

"From the time work was begun by the original company until it suspended, steam-power was entirely depended upon. The dredges were thus operated as well as the power-shovels. Tramways were constructed along the various contracts, each of which represented a railroad system having its equipment of locomotives and cars. It is unnecessary to refer to the large quantity of rolling-stock which was thus employed. In the item of fuel for the locomotives and dredges alone an enormous expense was incurred, saying nothing of the pay-roll of the numerous engineers and firemen who were required. By the erection of one, possibly two or three, power-stations, sufficient current can be generated to operate all the train-service required, while the dredging and excavating machinery can also use the same force to a large extent. Those who are familiar with the methods of electric distribution in vogue to-day will realize the great economy which can be effected by its substitution for steam. It is entirely practicable, and the current can be transmitted to any extent desired from one end of the line to the other, since the distance is much shorter than that of many of the transmission lines in successful operation in the United States."

The señor still believes that the canal will eventually be made a sea-level canal, and the locks that are now a part of the plan of construction can be built in such a manner as will admit of their ready removal when it may be decided to reduce the canal to the level of the ocean.

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SOME ODD RAILROAD RULES.

SOME of the regulations in force on the earliest railroads built in Pennsylvania read very queerly in these days of "limiteds" and "flyers." A number of them are quoted in a brief paper read before the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania on early experiences in transportation by Mr. Antes Snyder, and abstracted in part in *The Scientific American Supplement* (November 28). Says this paper:

"When the commonwealth opened the Philadelphia and Columbia Railway, the theory was that the State furnish the roadway and that any one who pleased could furnish his own vehicle and motive power and use the railway whenever he wished by paying the state tolls for its use, just as the turnpikes of the day were used. But it was soon discovered that a certain character of vehicle was needed, and that rules and regulations as to times and manner of using the railways were absolutely necessary to effect their successful operation. The ordinary shippers found it too expensive to fit themselves with the necessary plant, and that they could get this transportation done by large and well-equipped shippers much more cheaply than they could do it themselves, so that in practise the business drifted into the hands of a few individuals and companies, who did this service for the many. The railway as constructed was intended for the horse as motive power, tho the locomotive was being introduced as an experiment shortly after the railway was completed. The following among the rules and regulations adopted by the Canal Commission for the regulation of the railway may be of interest:

"'Section 92.—No car shall carry a greater load than three tons on the Columbia and Philadelphia Railway, nor more than three and one-half tons on the Portage Railway, nor shall any burden car travel at a greater speed than five miles per hour, unless the car body and load shall be supported on good steel springs.'

"'Section 108.—It shall be the duty of the conductors of cars moving with less speed upon the railways, upon notice by ringing a bell, blowing a horn, or otherwise, of the approach of a locomotive-engine or other cars moving in the same direction at a greater speed, to proceed with all possible despatch to the first switch in the course of their passage, and pass off said track until said locomotive-engine or other cars moving at greater speed can pass by. The conductors of the slower cars are directed to open and close the switches so as to leave them in proper order. Any person who shall refuse or neglect to comply with the provisions of this regulation shall, for every offense, forfeit and pay the sum of ten dollars.'

"It must have been a very interesting and novel sight, indeed, when the horse and the locomotive were used indiscriminately on the same track and were struggling for supremacy as the future motive-power of our railroads, and the approach of a locomotive was heralded by the tooting of a horn. Even at that time the right of way was given to the fast horse."

Another Test of Submarine Boats.—An elaborate test to determine the usefulness of submarine boats in naval warfare was made recently in Narragansett Bay, the purpose being to see if they were less visible at night than surface boats, if they could be navigated successfully and safely in the dark, and if the playing upon them of numerous searchlights hampered the making of observations from their conning-towers. Says a writer in *The Marine Review*:

"The test partook of the nature of a sham battle, in which Fort Adams and the torpedo-station, with strong searchlights and large parties of army and navy officers acting as observers, and the tug *Peoria*, anchored west of the torpedo-station, and using a powerful searchlight, were opposed to the submarine boats *Moccasin*, *Adder*, and *Plunger*, and the surface boats *McKee* and *Morris* and torpedo-boat No. 1. Of the six craft afloat the *Adder* alone lived through the battle, and she succeeded in eluding all the watchers and getting into a position so close to the tug *Peoria* that she could easily have annihilated her. It was, in fact, a clean-cut victory for the *Adder*, which was in command of Lieut. Frank L. Pinney. On the whole, the battle was very exciting to those who participated in it, as the night was dark and under the conditions the powerful searchlights shone with great brilliancy. The watchers at Fort Adams picked up with some little difficulty the submarine boats *Moccasin* and *Plunger*, but in vain they searched for the *Adder*. It was learned that the navigation of submarine boats in the dark was practicable, and that the playing upon them of powerful searchlights did not much hamper their officers in running them or making observations from their conning-towers fairly well. When the light was not playing upon the boats very good vision could be obtained from the submarines. It was proved that the submarines were less visible in the dark than the surface boats. The submarine boats were run in a half-submerged condition."

Mortar Made of Crushed Stone.—May crushed stone be used instead of sand for making mortar? That it should not be so used and that the result is inferior seems to be assumed by the Merchants' Association of New York in its fight against the alleged faulty construction of the Jerome Park Reservoir. In evidence taken before the Croton Aqueduct Commission particular stress has been laid on the use of crusher-dust in place of sand as responsible—in part at least—for the faults charged. *The Engineering News*, in an editorial on the subject, however, assures us that stone-dust makes superior mortar. It says:

"In some mysterious way it has been assumed that in using stone-dust in place of natural sand for mortar at Jerome Park the engineers were inaugurating a new and unknown feature of practise in masonry construction. . . . Crushed stone-dust was recognized by the cement authorities of thirty years ago as a permissible and suitable substitute for sand for mortar. It was used instead of sand in constructing the great Vyrnwy Dam for the Liverpool water-works, one of the most celebrated engineering works of the world. At the present time the well-known English engineer, James Mansergh, is using to the entire exclusion of natural sand the dust of his stone-crushers in building the five great dams for the Birmingham water-supply. The coast-defense fortifications built in Boston harbor in 1902-03 were constructed of concrete, using crusher-dust in place of sand after a series of careful tests had demonstrated to the United States engineers in charge that the artificial material was the superior one."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

THE following observations of Sir Oliver Lodge have been selected as his text by Carl Snyder, the author of a recent book entitled "New Conceptions of Science": "The ordinary run of men live among phenomena of which they care nothing and know less. They see bodies fall to the earth, they hear sound, they kindle fires, they see the heavens roll above them, but of the causes and inner workings of the whole they are ignorant, and with their ignorance they are content."

THIS country has lost one of its foremost engineers in Dr. Robert H. Thurston, director of the Sibley College of Cornell University. Dr. Thurston ranked very high in his profession, but was chiefly known as an instructor, administrator, and writer. He served with distinction in the Engineering Corps of the navy during the Civil War, and at its close was assigned to the faculty of the Annapolis Naval Academy. In 1871 he became professor of engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology, where he remained for fourteen years, going in 1885 to Cornell to take the directorship of the Sibley College, then about to be organized.

"PROFESSOR LOMBROSO has a curious prejudice against ambidexterity," says *Amateur Work*. "In Last month's *North American Review* he gives the results of his observations on left-handed and left-sided people. They are of such a character to make people hesitate even to stretch out the left hand, and it is small consolation for him to make the closing qualification: 'I do not dream of saying that all left-handed people are wicked, but that left-handedness united to many other traits, may contribute to form one of the worst characters among species.' . . . The professor finds that among 1,000 soldiers and operatives the proportion of left-handed people is 4 per cent. among the men and 5 and 8 per cent. among the women. Among criminals the quota of left-handed was found more than tripled in men and more than quintupled among women."

THE weather undoubtedly exerts a certain amount of influence upon the mind. The exaltatio of spirits due to bright sunlight and high barometer is a case in point, as well as the depression of spirits caused by rain, fog, and a cold irritating wind. A writer in *The Medical Record* tells of investigations made by Dr. W. Norwood East, deputy medical officer of the convict prison at Portland, England, with the object of ascertaining if atmospheric changes influenced the criminal classes perceptibly. A period of three years was taken, during which time he noted the direction of the wind, the outlook, the temperature in the shade, and the barometric height, taken daily at 8 A.M. at the prison, and to estimate the possible effects on the criminal the number of breaches of prison discipline was compared. The investigations tended to show that the criminal did not appear to be affected to an extent worthy of mention by the outlook.

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE KAISER AS A PREACHER.

IT has been known that Wilhelm II., the many-sided, when on his northern trip on the *Hohenzollern*, acted also in the capacity of a chaplain; but it was generally understood that he read sermons prepared by regular preachers. Recently he acted in the capacity of a preacher at the confirmation of his two sons, Prince August Wilhelm and Prince Oscar, in the Fremdenskirche, in Potsdam, and delivered an address, which was doubtless his own production, at the banquet that followed the confirmation. It has produced a marked effect in Germany, and is generally regarded as a public profession of the Emperor's religious convictions. We reproduce from the official *Reichsanzeiger* (Berlin) the following sentiments uttered at this time:

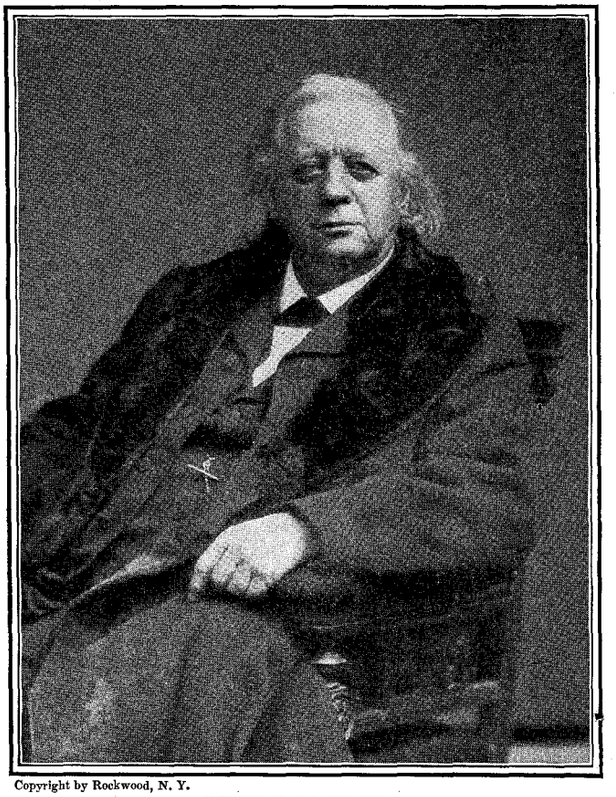
MY DEAR SONS: In this moment, when we are about to empty our glasses to your prosperity and to express our congratulations that you have now passed out of the period of boyhood and into that of vigorous manhood, as also into membership of the congregations of the Lord in order to work also in this sphere, it is my wish as your father to send you out with a word of good counsel.

The present day is for you, in a spiritual sense, what, from a military point of view, that day signified on which you took your oath of allegiance to the flag of your country and entered the army. With this latter step I would compare your baptism. By that act you became warriors of the Lord. With the present day you have, so to speak, become of age in matters of faith. The arms and the weapons of which you are to make use have been put into your hands by the skilful preparation of your pastors and instructors in the catechetical lessons. The application of these in the contests of actual life will now be left to you. In this respect, too, you will still not be without further guidance by your spiritual leaders; but notwithstanding all this help, in the end every Christian must himself learn to use his own weapons. In a very eminent sense, a Christian can be compared with a soldier, and in his warfare the Christian must use only the weapons which the Lord Himself has put at his disposal.

In the address which your pastor delivered in your presence he very properly spoke of the great importance of "personality" in the Christian's walk and work. It is this thing which in my conviction the Christians of our day need more than any other. Everything in this career as a Christian depends upon the development of this personality. Christ himself was the most personal of personalities when he lived and labored here upon the earth. You have in your instruction heard much of great men, of wise men, of statesmen, kings, and poets. You have learned many of their sayings and principles, and have been incited to noble thoughts and highest ideals by these. But you must never forget that these are all only mortal men, and their sayings only human wisdom. None of their words can compare with the words of him who is our Lord and Savior. And you must not forget that in the vicissitudes of life you will meet with men of prominence who will entertain thoughts on the subject of religion and of the person of Christ that are different from those which have been taught to you. But there never has been a being like unto him, and the words which he spoke are the words of the living God and words that produce life. His teachings will continue to be vital forces long after all the sages and savants of the world have been forgotten.

When I look back upon my personal experience, I can give you this assurance, that the center and heart and kernel of all human life, especially if it is one of responsibility and of work—and this has become clearer and clearer to me every year—is found solely in the position which a person takes toward his Lord and Savior. Even the most determined doubter of the divinity of Christ can not but recognize this wonderful personality. He is one who can not be ignored. To-day he still walks among men, comforting, consoling, strengthening; and everybody is compelled, directly or indirectly, to live the life that he lives, to conduct the office that he holds, to do the work upon which he is employed, based upon the attitude which he takes toward Christ. In all the troubles and trials of life you must look to him. Your conscience will tell you what he would have you do. In the end he is the only helper.

Naturally these sentiments of the Kaiser, which reecho the words he penned to Admiral von Hollmann, in the Babel-Bibel controversy, have called forth the warmest commendations of the conservative religious press of Germany. Only occasionally in ultra-orthodox circles is a word of criticism found. Thus the *Kirchliches Volksblatt* of Hanover (No. 44) complains that the sermonic address consists chiefly of glittering generalities, and, instead of proclaiming old-fashioned orthodoxy, teaches an "undogmatical Christianity of works."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



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HENRY WARD BEECHER.

In Dr. Abbott's judgment, he "has probably done more to change directly the religious life, and indirectly the religious thought, in America than any preacher since Jonathan Edwards."

LYMAN ABBOTT'S APPRECIATION OF HENRY WARD BEECHER.

"I, HIS friend, who gladly acknowledge my own indebtedness to him, seek to interpret the life and character of a man of great spiritual and intellectual genius, whose faults were superficial, whose virtues were profound, whose influence will outlive his fame, and who has probably done more to change directly the religious life, and indirectly the religious thought, in America than any preacher since Jonathan Edwards."

It is thus that Dr. Lyman Abbott sums up his estimate of Henry Ward Beecher, in a volume reviewed in our columns December 5, and which seems likely to assume the place of the most important interpretation of the great American pulpit orator, being written by one who had intimate personal relations with Mr. Beecher for more than thirty years. The reminiscent material of the volume takes us back to the author's first impressions of his friend in passages like the following:

"In 1854 I entered the law office of my brothers in New York city, and went to live with the older of them in Brooklyn. He was attending Plymouth Church, and I naturally went there with him. He was a son of New England, a Puritan, tho of liberal temper, and a Webster Whig, and, therefore, originally had a triple prejudice against the young preacher who

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had recently come to Brooklyn, and who was in manner a Westerner and in theology and politics a radical. But my brother had characteristically resolved to listen to six successive sermons from the preacher before finally deciding about him, and, as a result, was already a sympathetic listener and a devoted friend. I was not yet twenty years of age, and the defects and the excellencies of Mr. Beecher appealed alike to my boyish nature: his exuberant life, his startling audacity, his dramatic oratory, his passionate fire, his flashes of humor, his native boyishness—all combined to fascinate me."

Of the extent to which Dr. Abbott's thinking was shaped by listening to Mr. Beecher he tells us with great frankness, thus:

"I had constructed for myself a crude theology, doubtless largely borrowed from others, but for which I ought not to make others responsible. . . . Mr. Beecher revolutionized my theology by revolutionizing my life. I obtained through him a new experience of God, of Christ, of salvation, of religion. I began to see that Jesus Christ was what God eternally is; that his laws are the laws of my own nature; that I have not more truly inherited disease than health, depravity than virtue, from my ancestors; that salvation is life, and that Jesus Christ came into the world to give me life; that God is my Father and my Friend, and that my fellowship may be with Him; that the Bible is the record of the experiences of men who knew Him and His love and fellowship, and who narrated their experiences that others might share them; that religion is not the obedience of a reluctant soul to law, but the glad captivity of a loyal soul to the best of all loved friends. . . . From that day to this my desire has been by voice and pen to give to others the life which had been given to me when I learned that God is love and Jesus Christ is love's interpreter, and, therefore, God's interpreter."

Passing in review the events of the preacher's boyhood, Dr. Abbott remarks that Beecher retained to his dying day a boyish nature. His love for children, his unaffected and spontaneous interest in their life and sports, constantly attracted children to him. "Children and dogs," he once said, "are good judges of human nature." Referring to his extrinsic qualities, his sincerity and simplicity of address, his "freshness of thought," "vividness of imagination," "power of impassioned feeling and . . . oratorical skill," Dr. Abbott says that "all these outward qualities would never have given him his influence had they not been instruments for the expression of a gospel of life and love."

The descriptions of inside life at Plymouth Church during Beecher's pastorate will give many people who read this book fresh ideas about that historic congregation. Dr. Abbott thinks the church was properly "orthodox" and purely "Congregational." The congregational singing, which made the church famous, is interestingly touched upon, and Beecher's revival work is thus described:

"He made no attempt to drive men into the kingdom of God; little or none to make them feel either the present evil or the future peril of an unsaved condition; the burden of his preaching was a presentation of the joy inherent in the life of faith, hope, and love. 'I have sat in my own pulpit,' he once said to me, 'and seen Finney get the sinner down and pound him until I have wanted to pull Finney by the coat and cry out, "O let him up, let him up!"' Dr. Finney drove men to repentence; Mr. Beecher drew them. The themes of his revival preaching might almost be summed up in the saying of Hosea, 'I drew them with bands of love.' One evening he read a letter from an unknown young man, unknown I think to him, certainly to the congregation, saying that he was going to destruction under temptations which he could neither resist nor escape, and imploring Mr. Beecher 'to preach to me the terror of the law, anything to arouse me from this fearful lethargy.' With this as his text, Mr. Beecher preached the love of God in Jesus Christ as the only remedy for sin, saying, 'If this love of God will not move you, the fear of God will not.' The incident was characteristic. Mr. Beecher believed in retribution—at that time more definitely than he did subsequently. But he rarely preached it, and when he did so, it was only as a dark background that he might make the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ more luminous."

Of Henry Ward Beecher as an orator, Dr. Abbott writes at some length. He makes no attempt to analyze Mr. Beecher's powers of eloquence, but after some mention of "his skilful tho inartificial rhetoric, his opalescent imagination, his illuminating humor, his unconscious art of dramatization, his perfervid and contagious emotion," Dr. Abbott puts him into the scales of estimate with his contemporaries as follows:

"I instinctively compare him with other contemporary orators whom I have heard—Daniel Webster, Charles Sumner, George William Curtis, John B. Gough, William E. Gladstone, and Phillips Brooks. . . . Mr. Beecher was less weighty than Daniel Webster; one was a glacier, the other an avalanche; one was a battery of artillery, the other was a regiment of horse charging with the impetuosity of Ney. Mr. Beecher could be as clear-cut and crystalline at times as Wendell Phillips was at all times, but he was never malignant as Wendell Phillips sometimes was, and never took the delight, which Wendell Phillips often took, in the skill with which he could transfix an opponent. Mr. Beecher could, and sometimes did, marshal facts with a military skill scarcely inferior to that of Charles Sumner, as witness some passages in his English speeches; but he was never overloaded and overborne by them. He summoned facts as witnesses to confirm a truth, and when their testimony was given dismissed them, while he, with dramatic imagination and emotional power, pressed home upon his audience the truth to which they bore witness. He had not the grace either of diction or of address which characterized George William Curtis. Mr. Curtis never violated the canons of a perfect taste; Mr. Beecher often did. . . . It is difficult to compare Mr. Beecher's dramatic power with that of John B. Gough. Considered simply as dramatic artists, Mr. Beecher was far more impassioned and moving, Mr. Gough more versatile. . . . I heard Mr. Gladstone but once; it was in the English House of Commons; his object was to commend and carry his motion for the use of the closure, before unknown in Parliament. It would be absurd to attempt an estimate of Mr. Gladstone's oratory from this one address. But comparing that one address with the many I have heard from Mr. Beecher, it was more persuasive, but less eloquent. . . . Comparing Henry Ward Beecher and Phillips Brooks, I should describe Phillips Brooks as the greater preacher, but Mr. Beecher as the greater orator. . . . If the test of the oration is its perfection, whether of structure or of expression, other orators have surpassed Mr. Beecher; if the test of oratory is the power of the speaker to impart to his audience his life, to impress on them his conviction, animate them with his purpose, and direct their action to the accomplishment of his end, then Mr. Beecher was the greatest orator I have ever heard; and in my judgment, whether measured by the immediate or by the permanent effects of his addresses, takes his place in the ranks of the great orators of the world."

POSSIBILITIES OF AN "EDUCATIONAL CONCORDAT" IN ENGLAND.

THE controversy in English religious circles over the rights and wrongs of the new Education Act continues with unabated vigor. A few days ago a crowded meeting was held in the City Temple, London, at which impassioned speeches on the question were made by the Rev. R. J. Campbell, Dr. John Clifford, and Dr. Robertson Nicoll, of *The British Weekly*. "Passive resistance" is still the watchword of the non-conformists, and a considerable number have been arrested for refusing to pay the school tax. Impelled, no doubt, by a sense of the seriousness of the situation, the Archbishop of Canterbury has addressed a letter to the Rev. Dr. R. F. Horton, of London, one of the leading English non-conformists, suggesting the possibility of a conference at which "existing causes of offense or misunderstanding on either side" might be stated. His letter runs in part:

"We agree, I think, in earnestly desiring that the elements of the Christian faith as taught in Holy Scripture should form part of the regular instruction given in elementary schools, subject, of course, to the strict observance of a conscience clause. Where security is given by trust-deed for the continuance of such teaching you would not wish, I imagine, any more than I should, that such security should be destroyed.

"Further, we agree, I think, in maintaining that those to whom

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is entrusted the privilege (usually so highly valued) of giving this teaching should be persons qualified to give it genuinely as well as efficiently.

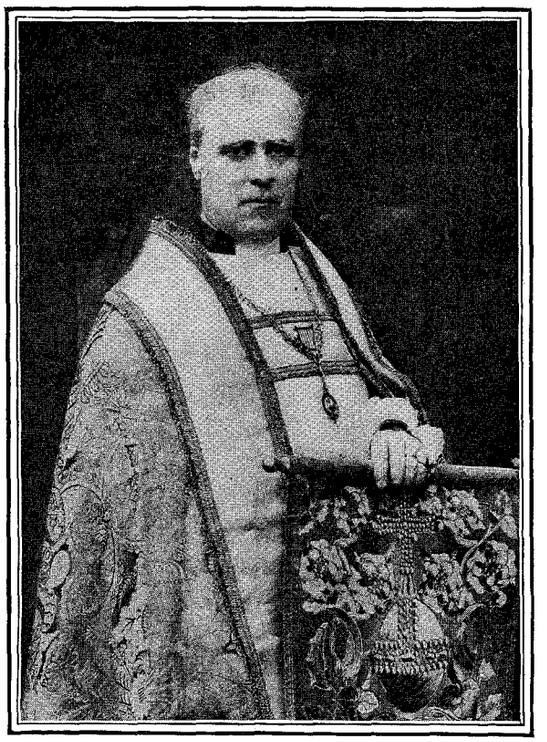
"Yet further, I believe us to agree that, in the present state of English feeling on the subject, it would not be right to banish wholly from our elementary school system the giving of denominational religious teaching within school hours, under proper restrictions, to those children whose parents desire it.

"Of course each of these general principles admits of a great variety of modes in which effect could be given to it, and a great variety of restrictions which could be imposed. These are the very questions which we might profitably discuss together:

"What, for example, ought to be the *minimum* or *maximum* of religious or denominational instruction allowed?

"In what way and under what limitation ought a teacher's qualifications to give such teaching to be ascertained?

"Ought denominational teaching to be allowed under proper safeguards in all elementary schools in which the parents of children desire it; or ought it to be restricted, and, if so, under what conditions, to schools in which a denomination pays the cost by supplying gratuitously the school buildings?"



THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY,
Who is trying to arrange a conference on educational problems between Anglicans and Non-conformists.

To this communication Dr. Horton replies that, so far as he "has been able to consult those who are accepted as the Free Church leaders," he finds them agreed "without a single dissentient voice" that the conference suggested by the archbishop "must start from two fundamental positions." These positions are: "(1) That all schools maintained by public money must be absolutely under public control. (2) That in all schools maintained by public money all teachers must be appointed by the public authority, without reference to denominational distinctions." If these positions are granted, he says, he is convinced that a way could be found of maintaining real religious teaching in all schools, while giving fair opportunity to those who desire to supplement it denominationally. He goes on to say that many think that the time for such a conference is either past or not yet come. It would have been eminently useful before the passage of the Education Act; it would be useful yet if the Government showed a disposition to amend the law, of which he sees no sign. But he thinks the situation may change rapidly, and believes he speaks for nine-tenths of the population in expressing the desire "that in every school there should be the sense of God, the habit of prayer and praise, and the reading of the Book, which is at once the supreme religious treasure of the world and the greatest masterpiece of English literature."

The Church Times (London), in commenting on the whole incident, observes: "Churchmen should now realize that compromise on the base of a residual creed is as impossible as it is undesirable, and that only two alternatives are left—the teaching of all religions or the teaching of none." The London *Pilot* (Anglican) discusses at length the possibilities of an "educational concordat." It says in part:

"The effect of the Archbishop of Canterbury's letter has been to make the non-conformist position absolutely clear. We should be sincerely glad if it should have the further effect of making the position of churchmen equally clear. Speaking for ourselves, we should have no difficulty in laying down two 'fundamental' positions, which, taken in combination with Dr. Horton's, would supply a workable compromise. They are: (1) That the public authority should provide a place and a time in which the children in elementary schools should be instructed in the religions professed by their parents. (2) That the cost of this religious instruction should be defrayed by the denominations, including under that term those who call themselves undenominationalists. In this way each and all of the religions professed by Englishmen would be given a fair field and no favor."

The British Weekly (London) has this to say:

"We do not believe for a moment that there will be any division among non-conformists. They have their differences as to the final form of the settlement, but these differences will be adjusted peacefully when the chief blots of the act are removed. We are glad that Archbishop Davidson keeps the door open for further conference. He has a magnificent opportunity. A really generous action on the part of the Church of England now would promote the prosperity of the church and strengthen her position in the country as nothing else would. Is she to follow the old and infatuated policy of yielding nothing to justice or to mercy, of conceding nothing except under absolute compulsion? With her will or without her will the wrong will one day be set right, and we very respectfully venture to remind the archbishop of Emerson's favorite quotation from the Indian Scriptures: 'Time drinketh up the essence of every great and noble action which ought to be performed, and which is delayed in the execution.'"

ARE DOGMAS "MATTERS OF TASTE"?

MR. WALTER R. CASSELS, the author of that famous attack upon the Christian faith, "Supernatural Religion," contributes to *The Nineteenth Century* (October) an iconoclastic paper on "The Present Position of Religious Apologetics." His conclusion is that "men think themselves justified in believing anything that seems to appeal to their own fancies and personal leanings. Dogmas are matters of taste, matters of opinion, which are adopted with little or no examination and held with no discrimination." He says further:

"The more one looks into the religious views in the church at the present time, the more apparent it is that with the abandonment of the 'Old Bailey' system of Paley, and the recognition that there is practically no valid evidence producible for the doctrines it still, at least nominally, holds, Christianity has become a mere religion of the heart and of the imagination, its evidence being nothing more than the impressions made on the believer by the noble life and teaching of Jesus. . . . Miracles as evidence have been relinquished with relief and without regret, and the fatal consequence of discrediting the central dogmas of Christianity, which are, so to say, more miraculous than the attesting miracles, is avoided as much as possible by spiritualizing their details and reducing the more stubborn supernatural elements to such a state of haze and indefiniteness that they may float through the mind without any substantial shock. No testimony is demanded or considered necessary beyond the witness of personal emotion, and perfect satisfaction is at least expressed regarding the certainty of views

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which seem to have no other support than assumed suitability to the needs of man."

The World To-day (Chicago, December) takes exception to these statements. It comments:

"A man's judgment upon the religious, like that upon the political, situation depends upon the company he keeps, and it is very probable that Mr. Cassels' words are true as regards his immediate circle, or are believed by it to represent the situation among intelligent Christians. But they are by no means true of the Christian world at large. Higher criticism has not destroyed the intellectual supports of Christian faith, however much it has affected doctrine as to the Bible. There is growing up all over the world a new generation of men whose theology is not based on an assumption as to inspiration, but upon the scientific study of the sources presupposed by historical Christianity. These men are no more dependent upon their emotions than upon their reason. They do not hold a dogma because it suits their taste, but because they believe it to be true. And they are the men who will control the great religious awakening which, tho so zealously prophesied, seems so slow in coming. Sooner or later religious experience reaches back for intellectual convictions. If they be wanting, religious enthusiasm cools. The hope of the church of the future lies not with the men who would force upon it the intellectual habits and convictions bequeathed by a prescientific age, but with those who live the life of their own age. And it may be that the church of today, like the disciples of old, is so intent upon having its own program fulfilled as to be blind to the fact that the religious awakening is to be already seen in the new passion for social righteousness and for sacrificing service to the needy."

A ROMAN CATHOLIC CRITICISM OF MAETERLINCK.

MAETERLINCK is generally called a "mystic," and, so far as known, he has not disputed the accuracy of this designation. But according to Condé Benoist Pallen, a Roman Catholic writer, Maeterlinck should be called "an agnostic pantheist." Mr. Pallen writes in the New York *Messenger* (December):

"His theory, in brief, is that beyond human consciousness, as its antithesis, lies the great ocean of the Unconscious, beyond the reach of man's thought and the effort of his will. This Unconscious is the absolute, the bathos of all life, the universal zone of all things, yet clean out of all relation to our knowledge and will. This is his postulate, tho he gives us no inkling how he arrives at it. He simply lays it down; for M. Maeterlinck spurns demonstration or anything like a rationative process. Perhaps it is in this aspect that the critics see his mysticism. But mysticism is so far from being an assumption of an unconscious unknowable that it holds as its premise the existence of a conscious knowable, with which it comes into conscious communion. In other words, mysticism postulates a conscious, knowable God, made doubly known to man through reason and through revelation. M. Maeterlinck's postulate rests upon nothing but his own fiat. He denies the faculty of reason to arrive at a knowledge of God as the first cause of the universe, and he scouts the possibility of revelation, by which God makes Himself known to His creature in a more intimate and higher way. It is just because he denies the power of reason in this regard and the facts of revelation that he is thrown back upon the acceptance of an unconscious unknowable in seeking to escape from the materialistic nescience of that science which he credits with having crippled reason and destroyed revelation. He would escape from the gross and unmoral conclusion of science by a refuge in the figment of his unconscious world-soul. Morality, he sees well enough, is destroyed in the acceptance of a mechanical universe as the ultimate of man's thought. He would save human responsibility in some way by the hypothesis of the unconscious, tho it involve him in an intolerable contradiction."

Proceeding to a consideration of the three principal philosophical works of Maeterlinck—"The Treasure of the Humble," "Wisdom and Destiny," and "The Buried Temple"—the writer tries to show that "in its last analysis M. Maeterlinck's theory is plain Stoicism":

"Stripped of the verbiage of his rhetoric, it presents the dull and impenetrable surface of hardened nescience. It is true that M. Maeterlinck scatters the jeweled rhetoric of optimism with prodigal hand along his path. The language of hope and love and beauty, of good tidings to come, of a roseate future for humanity in spite of the clouds that now lower, profusely adorns his pages. But this is an extraneous grace, which has no logical warrant in his fundamental thesis. In this he simply arrays himself in borrowed plumage. He here uses a tongue which is not truly his own and filches from the gardens of Christians the splendors of the flowers whose roots lie deep in the soil of Christian promise. Like every modern builder of a theory, which boasts that it displaces Christianity, he would hide the poverty of his own structure under the ornaments of the edifice he would destroy. His fundamental affinity with Stoicism too clearly betrays itself in his constant admiration of its heroes. To him Antoninus Pius 'was perhaps truly the best and most perfect man this world has ever known, better even than Marcus Aurelius.' Their manner of meeting and accepting destiny is the model he holds up as the perfection of human living. Their wisdom, the stoic virtue of apatheia—freedom from passion, indifference in face of all that life holds for man, equanimity—evenness of mind—is its quintessence. The doctrine and practise of Stoicism is in truth the naked reality of M. Maeterlinck's thesis; an old philosophy masquerading in modern habiliments."

There are "many admirable and true utterances" throughout Maeterlinck's works, we are told, but "they are only admirable and true on the very ground which he desperately labors to undermine. These truths are not his own. Accept his foundation and you destroy their worth. His philosophy of life is the vague dream of an imagination which has lost all relation to reason. He roams in a shadowy, indefinite cloudland, lighted up only by the lurid gleams of an exuberant fancy. His morality is a mere sentiment suspended in mid-air. His entire theory a phantasy, the baseless fabric of a vision; what the old scholastic philosophers would justly style *deliramenta*." We quote, in conclusion:

"One might imagine that Maeterlinck would have turned to Christianity and examined or reexamined its claims in the face of the disastrous failure of science to answer the great questions of life. There are evidences in his works that he has misunderstood the simplest fundamentals of Christian revelation. But he does not stop to inquire. He is cocksure that Christianity is totally wanting. It is clear that in his mind science has completely broken down the postulates of revealed religion. He brushes these aside with appalling indifference. His immediate premise is the failure of religion, and he makes no attempt to vindicate his assumption. He has the air of laying this down as an axiomatic truth, about which there is no need of concerning ourselves. We have here no ground for challenging him, for he advances nothing to substantiate his position. His assertion is in the air, as peremptory as it is gratuitous. Nor do we find in the advancement of his own theory, which he hypothecates as the substitute of religion, anything to show why Christianity is not a sufficient answer to all the moral needs of life. To him revealed religion has no more to say than it had to Marcus Aurelius, and his ignorance of it would seem as great as that of this famous Roman emperor. Indeed, his estimate of it appears to be upon the same contemptuous level with that of the imperial stoic, who seems to be the greatest saint in M. Maeterlinck's pantheon. It is only in testing his theory by a critical analysis that we shall discover M. Maeterlinck's tremendous misapprehension of what Christianity really is. Among all modern substitutes for Christianity none more strikingly illustrates their impotence, nor brings out more clearly the practical value of Christianity, than M. Maeterlinck's vague dream,

Pinnacled dim in the intense inane."

CARDINAL GIBBONS has issued an appeal to the Roman Catholic bishops, priests, and people of the United States in behalf of the national Catholic University at Washington. Remarking that the first communication of the new Pope to the hierarchy of the United States "expresses his concern for the welfare of this pontifical institution," Cardinal Gibbons goes on to say: "The generous endowment of educational institutes by non-Catholics is one of the most significant movements in our national life. That Catholics, who have contributed so freely to so many other needs of the church, are ready, in respect of educational zeal, to rival their non-Catholic fellow citizens we may take as an assured fact. What is requisite to direct their generosity toward the work of higher education is clear perception of its importance and necessity. . . . Leo XIII., of happy memory, has publicly registered his hope that the Catholic University of America should be to the American people what the Catholic University of Louvain is to the people of Belgium — the bulwark of religion and the crown of our Catholic educational system."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

ATTITUDE OF PIUS X. TOWARD ANTI-CLERICALISM.

THE first striking achievement of Pius X. is the creation of a favorable personal opinion of himself in a considerable section of the anticlerical press of Europe. Most of the newspapers which base their policy upon opposition to the Vatican expected that the new Pope's first encyclical would be a proclamation in which the political measure of the statesman could be taken. The *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels) would venture no opinion of any kind regarding the new Vatican policy until the encyclical had appeared. It was agreeably impressed by the elevated religious tone of the utterance, and it inclines to hold the College of Cardinals responsible for the subsequent allocution that was so irreconcilable regarding the temporal power. A like discrimination between the good sovereign pontiff and the bad cardinals is made by such enemies of the Vatican as the *Lanterne* (Paris), the *Action* (Paris), the *Radical* (Paris), and the *Heraldo* (Madrid), altho their tributes to the pontifical virtue are at the expense of the pontifical intelligence. "The Pope is only a sort of manikin," declares the *Action*, "who is dressed up for benedictions and for ritual exhibitions. Within those limits he plays his part."

This anticlerical impression is strengthened by the following words, which the wearer of the fisherman's ring addressed to a representative of the Paris *Matin*:

"Let them [French Roman Catholics] remember that they are of the church militant. They are liable to tribulations. But is not this the lot chosen by Christ during his earthly life? Altho he could have been born a king, and have lived the life of a king, he chose the condition of a working man. Offered a golden crown and scepter, as well as every earthly magnificence, he preferred a crown of thorns. . . . French Catholics, in the midst of their bitter fate, must look to Christ. Their sufferings will never equal his. . . . They must not refuse to render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, nor must they secure the triumph of human interest or give way to party passion. They should assert their faith, claim their liberty and give evidence of their fraternal union and virtue."

At the same time the Pope pronounced the policy of the French Government "deicide." However, according to the London *Times*, "it would look as if the days of the political priest were numbered," while a Roman Catholic correspondent of the London *Guardian* remarks on the subject of "Pius X. and anticlericalism in Latin countries":

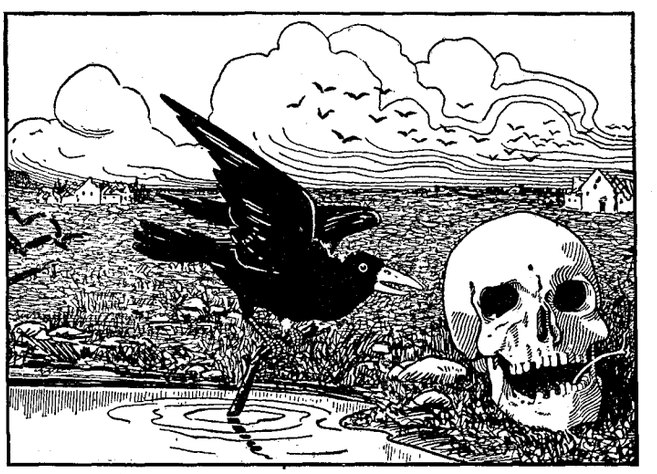
"It sounds paradoxical to inquire if a pope be 'clerical.' Nevertheless there have been preeminently clerical popes, and Leo XIII. was among their number. The late Pope's Utopia was a world officered by priests, and the changes made by him in the order of Franciscan Tertiaries were all in the direction of instituting a definite lay militia under clerical supervision. This was not the idea of St. Francis, but it represented Leo's view of the weapons at the disposal of the church. The idea of St. Francis was much nearer akin to that of Pius X., with whom religion comes before hierarchic pretensions, and whose Utopia would be a democratic society knit together, ordered, and moralized by the spirit and the practises of religion. On the other hand, it must be remembered that the notion of religion appears to be bound up with hierarchic pretensions among all Latin peoples, and this is why the fact that anticlericalism is indigenous on Latin soil is so worthy of attention.

"The Latin peoples can bear more 'clericalism' than other peoples, but on condition that they are permitted a periodical outlet in the shape of cries of 'Down with the priests!' They alternate with it, in fact, that strange recurrent disgust with sacerdotalism and all its works which gives point to the assertion that the two places in the world where the priest is best hated are Paris and Rome. It is no more use shutting our eyes to such a fact as this than forgetting that the temporal power did not insure the independence of the sovereign pontiff in the centuries preceding 1870.

"The new Pope possesses two great qualities for the successful confronting of rampant anticlericalism, tho such qualities, it must be confessed, will go little way toward mending the subtler forms of the disease which is the child of the *Zeitgeist*. Pius X. is sincerely democratic, and is not a bishop who places the hierarchy in the forefront of every religious question. He cares for the reform of the clergy because he cares for the religion of the poor; whereas Leo cared for the enlightenment of the clergy because he desired so ardently the *rôle* of the priest in religion. It need not be indicated which of these two attitudes presents most points of contact with the best thought of the day, nor which will most readily win sympathy with the democratic Latin peoples."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE NEW PLAN FOR MACEDONIA.

RAMAZAN, the holy season during which the Turkish Sultan does not concern himself with the affairs of this world, has not yet expired. Consequently, so far as Macedonian reform is concerned, there is "nothing doing" at Yildiz Kiosk. The *Fremdenblatt* (Vienna) learns, indeed, that even prior to the holy season there was one whole week during which Abdul Hamid would not permit such a thing as an Austro-Russian note to be mentioned in his presence. The London *Spectator* sees nothing in the latest reform to make it so disagreeable to the Commander of the Faithful. It "would change nothing":



MACEDONIA AFTER THE FINAL CARRYING OUT OF THE REFORMS.
—*Ulk* (Berlin).

"The plan is a very simple one. It is to appoint assessors who will watch Hilmi Pasha and his subordinates, will 'accompany him everywhere,' and will report to Vienna and St. Petersburg, or to the embassies at Constantinople, whenever they disapprove his action. These two agents, of whom one will be nominated by Russia and one by Austria, are, in other words, to act, as it were, as tutors to the Turkish governor, to counsel him, to remonstrate with him, and, if he does not mend his ways, to bring his conduct, viâ the embassies, to the notice of the Sultan. They are only appointed for two years, they have not a particle of direct authority, and they are well aware that their courts do not wish, if they can help it, at present to be compelled to interfere. If they are pleased, Hilmi Pasha will gain from their presence additional authority; if they are displeased, he will simply deny all the facts they allege."

When these details were laid before the Sultan last October, "the position of the Grand Vizier became embarrassing," remarks the *Frankfurter Zeitung*; while of the Sultan himself the London *Times* took note that "he explains, he evades, he criticizes, he objects, he protests." Finally, after a series of negotiations during which the embarrassment of the Grand Vizier became a topic in the European press, a reply was wrung from the Porte. "While not giving an absolute refusal," says the London *Standard*, "the Turkish Government, by declaring that Hilmi Pasha had already

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succeeded in accomplishing much of his imperial master's will, sought to delay the execution of the Austro-Russian program of reform by taking advantage of the absence of real unity in the European concert." This observation on the part of the London daily is almost an epitome of all foreign comment on the present situation. The *Kreuz Zeitung* (Berlin) says the Sultan is well aware of the discord in the European concert. Great Britain, France, and Italy are ranged on one side in favor of immediate drastic action in Macedonia, while Austria and Russia wish to avoid the calling of a conference of the Powers. The Berlin daily attaches great importance to the following utterance of the Paris *Temps*, "the official organ of the French Foreign Office":

"No one is unaware that the essential condition of useful efficacious action against Turkey is harmony among the Powers. The instant there is the least rift in this moral unity Ottoman diplomacy knows well how to widen it, to make a crevice of it, into which the Porte may thrust all its resistance, all its declarations of impotence, and all its bad faith. Without going back to the lamentable fiasco of the European concert in the Armenian affair, it is enough to look at the spectacle for some little time past presented by the Powers signatory to the treaty of Berlin. While Germany holds aloof, two very distinct groups have been formed among the remaining five Powers.

"On one side are Austria and Russia, who claim a right of priority and a sort of monopoly—without saying and, perhaps, without knowing if it be a priority and monopoly of action or of inaction, or whether they have a commission and a power of attorney, or merely a personal and peculiar right—and who decline both mutual intervention and efficacious reform. On the other side are France, Great Britain, and Italy, who adhere to efficacious reform.

"There is no need to be a Machiavelli in order to seize the weak place in such a situation, to work upon the antagonism and to find one's way out through the tangent. This is what Abdul Hamid has done, or rather what he is trying to do. . . . . .

"By taking up a position upon the narrow and tottering basis of the Austro-Russian note, Europe loses much of what still remains of her moral authority. She has no right either to neglect the opportunity presented by the foolish obstinacy of the Sultan, or to wash her hands of the iniquitous consequences of check or failure, which would mean the ruin of Macedonia and war in the spring."

An utterance of this nature, proceeding from the official organ of the Foreign Office at Paris, declares the *Kreuz Zeitung*, "clearly shows that French opposition to Russia's Balkan policy threatens to find expression in revolt, and that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris relies upon the support of Great Britain and Italy and, perhaps, of the small Balkan states themselves."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

GREAT BRITAIN'S DIFFICULTY WITH THE DALAI LAMA.

SUPREMACY in the sacred temple of the Po-ta-la, which rears its nine stories on a hill to the west of Lhassa and in which the living Buddha—the Dalai Lama of Tibet—receives the homage of his legions of priests, carries with it supremacy over 500,000,000 Buddhists. For this reason, asserts the *Novoye Vremya* (St. Petersburg), there is "a wish on the part of England to enter into direct relations with Tibet," London knowing well that this secluded land "is of immense importance for domination in Central Asia." The London *Times* sees here a characteristic piece of Muscovite misrepresentation. "It is a matter of common report," it says, "that attempts are being made to win the Lamas over to the Russians," to which the Russian organ replies by calling attention to the character of Colonel Younghusband, who heads the British expedition which the Dalai Lama refuses to treat with. "Colonel Younghusband is an old friend of ours," notes the *Novoye Vremya*, "for we have caught him trespassing on our territory in Asia, and we have had to pack him off under a Cossack escort." The London *Standard* is disgusted at the treatment received by the colonel, exclaiming: "If we are not to go in by the front door, Russia must be prevented from creeping in at the back."

Some London organs are talking about "a little war" in Tibet, but the *Figaro* (Paris) thinks the difficulty may assume more serious proportions. The *Kreuz Zeitung* (Berlin) and the *Journal des Débats* (Paris) agree that the Russians have so far the best of the British in the struggle for influence over the living Buddha. Emissaries from St. Petersburg have been allowed to spend weeks in contemplation at the shrine of the spirit Choidsen, and even, it would seem, to feed with melted butter the sacrificial fire burning before the gigantic bronze statue of Buddha in the holiest temple at Lhassa. But Colonel Younghusband has had to put up at Khamba Jong, a long distance from the capital, and there some priests told him to go to India. "This, it need not be remarked," says the London *Standard*, "if not intended as a deliberate affront, constituted a demand which it would have been impossible to entertain." It adds:

FORCED FAVORS.

THE GRAND LAMA OF TIBET—"Now then, what's your business?"
BRITISH LION—"I've come to bring you the blessings of free trade."
THE GRAND L.—"I'm a Protectionist. Don't want 'em."
BRITISH LION—"Well, you've *got to have 'em!*"

["The advisers of the Dalai Lama, having ignored their obligations to us under the Convention of 1890, have now ignored the British Mission;" . . . "an advance is to be made into the Chumbi Valley on the frontier of Tibet."—*Daily Paper.*]

—*Punch* (London).

"Rightly or wrongly, there is an impression at Lhassa that the White Czar has managed to get the ear of some of the secular managers of affairs in the Land of Holy Practise. Whether there be less or more foundation for the belief, its propagation in India would be disturbing. We need not interfere with any usage or institution, but we must insist that, if there is to be any ascendancy in Tibet, it shall be that of the British Raj; and, so far as it is to be subjected to the 'pacific penetration' of trade and industrial development, the impulse and the line of access must be from the south.

"It is confessedly premature to dream dreams of the opening of the mystic and inhospitable valley to the forces which have transformed the more accessible and sociable world. Sentimental regret may be confessed at the peril which awaits the last refuge of picturesque and benighted archaism. Compared with the conservatism of the society over which the incarnate and never-dying Buddha presides, the statecraft of the court of Peking is wildly progressive. Yet it may be doubted whether the shell which has to be pierced is made of durable and really tough material."

Great Britain's difficulty may be in the outcome of the spectacular scale upon which she has gone to work, infers the Paris *Temps*. The Russians have been more self-effacing. "This time Great

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Britain wishes to play the grand part. No more secret missions. No more humble natives disguised as pilgrims in the garb of priests. No more pure erudition." This "mysterious country" more and more "tends, rather in spite of itself, to become the theater of a battle of influence between Russia and Great Britain." —*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

STRENGTH OF THE GREAT EUROPEAN POWERS AT SEA.

NEVER in the history of the world, declares a recent anonymous writer in the *Revue de Paris*, was the importance of sea-power so firmly grasped by great nations as during the period ushered in with the twentieth century. He confidently predicts that the history of this era will be written by those nations which can move efficient squadrons on the deep. Neglect of this significant truth by any Power will simply herald the relegation of that Power to hopeless inferiority. The *Grenzboten* (Leipsic), organ of the pan-German school of world-politics, heartily indorses this theory of twentieth-century destiny. Nor is it dissented from by a single one of the group of noted writers who are now filling the pages of British periodicals with their studies of the comparative strength of the great Powers at sea. The entire subject was statistically presented not very long ago by the London *Times*, by way of warning to Great Britain, presumably, in the following table of the numerical strength of seven mighty fleets:

BUILT.

	Great Britain.	France.	Russia.	Germany.	Italy.	United States.	Japan.
Battle-ships, 1st class	42	19	13	12	12	10	6
Battle-ships, 2d class	4	8	4	4	—	1	1
Battle-ships, 3d class	2	1	1	12	5	—	—
Coast-Defense Vessels	2	14	13	11	—	15	2
Cruisers, Armored	18	9	8	2	5	2	6
Cruisers, Protected, 1st class	21	7	6	1	—	3	—
Cruisers, Protected, 2d class	51*	16	5	8	5	11	10
Cruisers, Protected, 3d class	32†	17	—	10	11	2	8
Cruisers, Unprotected	10	1	3	20	—	11	9
Torpedo-Vessels	34	16	9	2	14	—	1
Torpedo-Boat Destroyers	112	14	48	28	11	14	17
Torpedo-Boats	85	247	132	93	145	27	67
Submarine Torpedo-Boats	5	15	—	—	1	3	—

BUILDING.

Battle-ships, 1st class	12 3‡	7	8	8	6	9 5‡	—
Battle-ships, 2d class	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Coast-Defense Vessels	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cruisers, Armored	19 4‡	13 1‡	—	3 1‡	1	11	—
Cruisers, Protected, 1st class	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cruisers, Protected, 2d class	2	—	2	—	—	6	2
Cruisers, Protected, 3d class	4 3‡	—	—	5 2‡	—	—	1
Scouts	4 4‡	—	—	—	—	—	—
Torpedo-Boat Destroyers	19 15‡	19 4‡	6	4 6‡	2	6	2
Torpedo-Boats	5	18 25‡	7	—	8	4	18
Submarine Torpedo-Boats	4 10‡	25 18‡	2	—	3	5	—

*Including three partially protected. †Including one partially protected. ‡To be laid down 1903-04.

Altho changes have been made in the details of naval programs since the publication of the above table, it represents with a rough accuracy the comparative activity of the world's navies. The *Hamburger Nachrichten* has reproduced it as a warning to Germany, and Mr. Archibald S. Hurd, the noted writer on naval affairs, has made it the basis of some comparisons in *The Fortnightly Review* (London). Mr. Hurd regards the subject from a British point of view, and he fears that his country faces some peril. "Russia, Germany, and the United States have increased their naval expenditure in a greater proportion than this country [Great Britain] has done," he declares, "and, moreover, the possibility of a combination against Great Britain is a more serious matter than it was." He adds:

"Supremely important deductions hang on an investigation of the number of battle-ships which have been launched and completed since that year [1889]. The figures for the several countries are as follows:

	Launched and completed since 1889.	Total number of large battle-ships less than 25 years old.
Great Britain	34	48 of 627,800 tons.
France	17 *	31 of 306,900 "
Russia	16 *	20 of 221,100 "
Germany	19 *	14 of 144,000 "
Italy	4	—
Austria	4	—
United States	12 *	12 of 125,900 "
Japan	6	7 of 93,800 "

* In these totals are included certain small battle-ships or coast-defence ships; in the case of France, 4 under 7,000 tons; Russia, 3 of 4,126 tons each; Germany, 7 under 5,000 tons; United States, 1 of 6,315 tons, and 1 of 4,084 tons only.

"Or, to take the second basis of comparison, we obtain the following possible combinations, again including only battle-ships of less than twenty-five years old, which is the admitted limit of usefulness:

		Combined.
Great Britain... 48 of 627,800 tons	France.... 31 of 306,900 tons Russia.... 20 of 221,100 tons Germany. 14 of 144,000 tons.	51 of 528,000 tons.
France, Russia, and Germany	65 of 672,000 tons.	

"With this statement may be placed the following forecast of the position in 1907, when all the ships now building will be completed for service, including, again, only battle-ships which will then be less than twenty-five years old:

		Combined.
Great Britain... 54 of 749,300 tons	France.... 31 of 344,900 tons Russia.... 26 of 302,900 tons Germany. 19 of 213,000 tons.	57 of 647,800 tons.
France, Russia, and Germany	76 of 860,800 tons."	

The subject of armored cruisers for the protection of commerce is also taken up by this writer, and he puts his conclusions in the form of another table, which makes an equally unfavorable showing for Great Britain. He warns his countrymen thus:

"From an imperial standpoint the existing disposition has little to commend it. It results in the naval forces of the empire being scattered, whereas the watchword of our rivals is concentration—Germany in the North Sea, France in the Channel and Mediterranean, Russia in the Far East. . . . They mass their ships where they have interests to defend which are threatened, while we distribute our ships to defend interests which are not threatened to the extent indicated by the measures taken for safety."

The bane of British naval policy, according to Captain Garbett, of the British navy, who writes in *The Monthly Review* (London), is the two-Power standard. In theory, this standard requires Great Britain to be able to cope at sea against the combined navies of any two Powers should she be involved in war with both and have no ally. Says the captain: "Whatever the value of the two-Power standard, however, may have been ten or twelve years ago, when we only had for practical purposes France and Russia to consider, that standard is now out of date, and can no longer be considered as a satisfactory margin of safety, in view of the new situation created by the steadily growing strength of the German navy."

An anonymous writer in *The National Review* (London) sees in the growth of the German navy possibilities which are interpreted in gloomy tabular comparisons. We read:

"Against the twenty Russian and German battle-ships actually in hand or projected, England has in hand or projected only twelve. Against the sixteen French and German ships, or the sixteen French and Russian ships, whatever combinations we make, the situation is the same. It is true that four large ships of the new Russian program have not as yet been laid down; but even if they are ruled out this year, and if we suppose that this country lays down next year an equivalent number of ships of the same class, the situation is still dangerous. Its perils are complicated by the fact that from financial exhaustion Japan has not yet been able to take in hand her new naval program, so that the relative weakness of England and her ally is growing at the very moment when Russia and Germany are most markedly developing their strength."

If the British "wish to avoid an unpleasant surprise," which

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"will assuredly be sprung upon them some fine day," they must, thinks the writer we are quoting, digest the following figures, which "show clearly a progressive decrease since 1900 in the total of our [British] battle-ships":

	1889.	1898.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
England	65	64	70	66	67	63
France	41	35	35	33	36	36
Russia	18	12	21	25	26	26(+4)
Germany	28	22	25	29	34	36

But a writer in London *Truth* protests against all this gloomy vaticination. His tabular comparisons demolish those of all his predecessors, while his deductions are as hopeful as his figures. We quote:

"Taking the most authoritative estimates of the strength of the leading European naval Powers, the following seem to be the facts: We possess 60 effective battle-ships of all classes against 68 which can be mustered by France and Russia; but, as a set-off to this slight numerical inferiority, we have 35 battle-ships ranking as first-class, chiefly on the basis of gun-power, against 32 of the same class in the French and Russian navies. In the class of armored cruisers we possess 37 ships as against 31 in the French and Russian navies, our number here being exactly equal to that of France, Russia, and Germany combined. When we come to ordinary cruisers, our superiority is immense. We have 21 ranking as first-class, France 3, Russia 7, and Germany 1; we have 54 of the second-class, France 18, Russia 6, and Germany 8. The totals for the first, second, and third class are: Great Britain, 123; France, Russia, and Germany combined, 85; and the German cruisers are nearly all of the third-class (23 third-class out of a total of 32)."

PAN-GERMANISM AND TAMMANY HALL.

NATIONAL Liberal organs in the German capital have expressed some regret at the recent victory of Tammany Hall in the New York municipal elections. This regret is a source of annoyance to the *Kreuz Zeitung* (Berlin), which proclaims not only its gratification over the Tammany triumph, but its exalted personal estimate of Hon. G. B. McClellan, who, it is informed, is "a perfect gentleman." This whole subject of the Tammany triumph, in the opinion of the Berlin daily, should be looked at from a German point of view and not from the standpoint of New York municipal affairs. To quote:

"It occurs to us that our Liberal German press has pronounced with excessive enthusiasm for the 'reform' party. We well remember with what incomprehensible, tremendous jubilation the victory of Seth Low was hailed at the previous mayoralty election. If this was done from satisfaction with honest government, the judgment displayed was bad. We have far nearer sources of concern than the city government of New York. In our opinion all that happens abroad affects us primarily as regards national—that is to say, German interests. Now every child knows that the Republican party, which in municipal elections masquerades as the reform party, is the especial standard-bearer and exponent of anti-German jingoism. Now and then the jingo spirit has, it is true, affected the Democratic party, but that party has nevertheless shown itself more tolerant of foreigners and of foreign nationalities than has the Republican party, which wallows in the outpourings of the yellow press. The reform party began its work with lying promises to the Germans, and it ended by laying upon a death-bed the course of German instruction in the public schools, altho that course was under pledge of development. How could we come to such a pass as to be enthusiastic for a party of that kind? Because we deem it more honest? The vote of the New York electors does not vouch for the accuracy of that assumption. How does it happen, for instance, that the saloon-keepers, alleged to be exploited by Tammany Hall, are a unit for Tammany Hall?

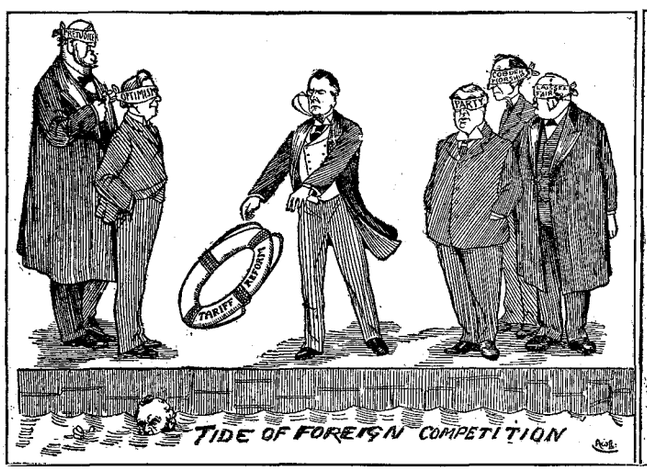
"However, we shall not go any further into that branch of the subject, and shall merely refer to the suggestion recently made here that Tammany is said to be antisemitic. This explains a good deal. With a certain element in the press, friendliness to the Jews excuses all crimes, and Antisemites are not credited with one good hair in their whole head. But to Germans and Christians we will not admit that such a shibboleth has any force. We judge foreign nations and foreign parties according to their attitude toward that which is German and not toward that which is Jewish. From this point of view we see no reason to go into mourning for Mr. Seth Low and the reform party. Since the controller and the president of the Board of Aldermen are to remain in office, it seems that it is really only Seth Low who quits office and Colonel McClellan who assumes it. McClellan, who is also a member of Congress and a son of the deceased Union general of the Civil War period, was born in Dresden, where his parents happened to be in the course of a European tour. The coming mayor, who was baptized with water from the Elbe, has the reputation of being very capable, well educated, and a perfect gentleman."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POINTS OF VIEW.

THE OPERATION ON WILLIAM II.—"The only inconvenience inflicted on his Majesty," asserts the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* (Berlin), "consists in the necessity of abstaining from the use of his voice."

PANAMA.—"The new republic," says the London *Standard*, "swims into the ken of an astonished, and also amused, world without a battle and encouraged by the instant receipt of ten millions of dollars."

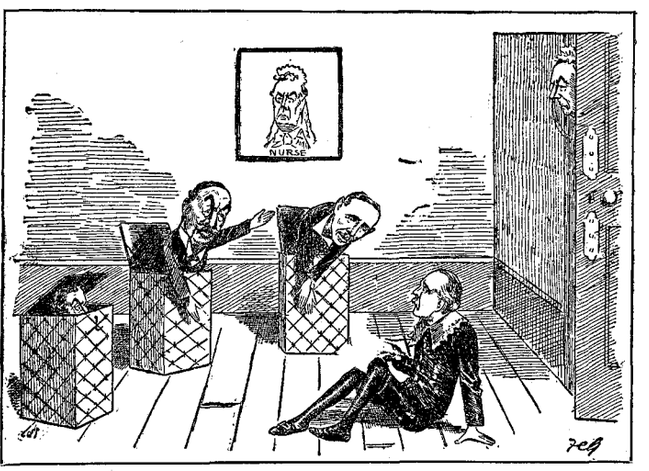
DOWIE AND WORLD POLITICS.—The outpouring of the people when Dowie visited New York constitutes a serious warning to the nations of Europe, according to the *Kreuz Zeitung* (Berlin). The psychological condition of American masses, which made them respond on such a scale to the Dowie incitation reveals the power yet to be wielded by some agitator who may place himself at the head of the nation and lead it on to world-wide schemes of jingo adventure. "So it is not out of place to address to Europe a seasonable 'Beware!'"



DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW.

CHORUS OF LEADERS OF LIBERAL PARTY—"I fail to see how Mr. Bull could be in a better position than he is."

MR. BULL—"I fail to see how I'm going to keep my head above water much longer!" —*St. James's Gazette* (London).



UNHAPPY CHILD.

NURSE—"Now, child, don't play with those horrid things."

CHILD—"I ain't playing with them—they're playing with me."

—*Westminster Gazette* (London).

CHAMBERLAIN PROS AND CONS IN CARICATURE.

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NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE DAY.

A PICTORIAL REVISION OF BOSTON.

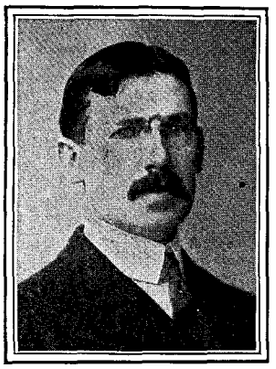
BOSTON: THE PLACE AND THE PEOPLE. By M. A. De Wolfe Howe. Cloth, 388 pp. Price, $2.50 net. The Macmillan Company.

READERS on the lookout for something distinctly new about Boston will not be likely to find what they seek in these pages. The book is, in the main, a revision or condensation of things said at divers times and occasions by other writers and speakers, and the few chapters which contain comparisons or criticisms that are Mr. Howe's own have appeared in print before, chiefly in the pages of *The Atlantic Monthly*.

Nevertheless the book is well worth reading, and no doubt will be eagerly conned by many far distant from Boston, for whom everything relating to that city holds an undying interest. That Boston is the most unique city in the United States, has held the most unbroken traditions, weathered changes and retained its pristine features as no other city has done, is a matter beyond dispute; and the cause and nature of these distinct features and their retention in the present day form the most interesting and important matter Mr. Howe has to present.

The character of the city's present population, which contains the largest proportion to be found in any American city of people of recent foreign descent, its homogeneity and adaptation to old-time native standards, furnish occasion for a bit of political philosophy well worth conning.

Mr. Howe quotes the local wit who said, "Boston is not a city, but a state of mind." This is one of the things that raises a ready laugh; but, after the laugh has subsided, one realizes the deep truth that prompted the witticism.



M. A. DE WOLFE HOWE.

"This town of Boston," said Emerson, "has a history. It is not an accident, not a windmill or a railroad-station or a cross-road tavern, or an army barrack, grown up by time and luck to a place of wealth; but a seat of humanity. . . . I do not speak with any fondness, but the language of coldest history when I say that Boston commands attention as the town appointed in the destiny of nations to lead the civilization of North America." If this seems like a groundless boast, one needs but review with Mr. Howe the most permanent national institutions of our country and trace these to their starting-point to realize the strength of the claim.

The practical value of Mr. Howe's book is that he has gone well over the ground, culled from many scattered sources, then classified what he has gathered, making a fair knowledge of the subject easily accessible to hurried readers. His work serves the combined purposes of an abridged history and a guide-book.

ESSAYS OF A NOVELIST.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NOVELIST. By Frank Norris. Cloth, 311 pp. Price, $1.25 net. Doubleday, Page & Co.

A COLLECTION of essays on the theory and morality of literary construction as especially applied to the novel. There is much here to bewail for the sake of the literary reputation honestly earned by Mr. Norris through his novels. In the matter of style, for instance, the spirit of the work is flippant, boastful, opinionative, piously irreverent after the manner of Kipling, newspaperish (which means repetitious, made for the day and the syndicate), and forceful in a crude sort of way; but it is not the temper of the literary essayist whose book is designed for the quiet library corner.

What a din Mr. Norris made over his principles, his propaganda, the immorality of certain practitioners in his own line, the literary taste of the "Plain People"! How he calls on the name of Heaven, banters the Deity or all the angels over so trivial a matter as an author's royalties or the taste of the people for romance instead of realism!

Here is a specimen of the hysterical style of the book: "Let us suppose for a moment that a romance can be made out of a cut-and-thrust business. Good Heavens! are there no other things that are romantic, even in this—falsely, falsely called—humdrum world to-day?" Or consider the poor taste of his reference to fellow craftsmen as "the Eben Holden and David Harum and Richard Carvel fellows."

The matter of the book consists of opinions offered, in no uncertain voice and with no failure of the tone of authority, from various points of view upon the literary business. He asserts the need of the literary conscience in those who, having passed the stage of the aspirant, count their public by the hundred thousand; he forecasts the novelist of the future; he pleads for an effort toward codifying in some way the principles of construction that the art of fiction may be taught as other arts are taught; he analyzes the mechanics of fiction; he exploits the methods of publisher, bookseller, literary critic, all the agencies, in fact, surrounding the author and his public, and closes the volume with a series of papers once contributed to *The Critic*, in which he spoke with an oracular voice upon many topics.

FRANK NORRIS.

There is a sincerity that is touching and a vehemence that is arresting. His aspirations are as boundless as the prairies and the mountains amid which he drew his inspiration. He is fascinated with ideas of bigness, of the poetic complexity of modern business, and talks about epics that might have been produced from the life of Western frontiersmen.

Norris had a constructive attitude of mind which is exhibited here as well as in his fiction. But as critic this constructive view opens into all kinds of absurdity. To found an American school for novel writers—to train for the business—to plow the field and to lay the way—to banish once for all the notion that the genius is he who comes by the road no man knoweth and whose substitute, as good as the god-inspired voice, may be produced in batches every year, stamped with the hall-mark—to these ends does the voice of our literary prophet call us!

A NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY BY A SOUTHERNER.

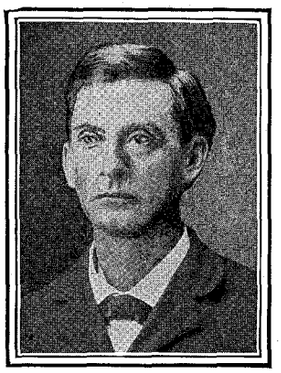
LIFE AND TIMES OF THOMAS JEFFERSON. By Thomas E. Watson. Cloth, pp. xxii+534. Price, $2.50 net. D. Appleton & Co.

IN his preface, the author introduces himself as the biographer militant, taking issue with other historians on the ground that they have written from a sectional point of view. Northern writers "write at" the South and Southern authors "write back again" at the North. He has accordingly tried to hold the balances equally between New England and the Southern States; and he has summoned into deserved prominence certain figures of American history (Dabney Carr for instance, who laid "the corner-stone of the republic") over whose memory the dust of oblivion has been allowed to gather.

The author handles his subject in a way that compels attention and instructs while it entertains. He has the courage of his convictions and is eloquent in presenting them. He has written himself into the book; and, as in the case of his "Napoleon," this fact increases its value and gives the book an unusually piquant, intellectual relish.

The tone of his book, however, is strongly polemical; it also "talks at" the North—in the few pages, for example, devoted to the slavery question, and in the chapter on the revolt in North Carolina. In the latter incident, the author has a crow to pick with Dr. Woodrow Wilson, who, in "nearly two thousand pages of alleged history," bestows just one little sentence on the tragic Carolina rebellion and never mentions at all the battle of Alamance, of date four years earlier than Lexington, where three thousand doughty Southerners defied the representative of Britain.

He figuratively grits his teeth when he reflects that this page of American history has been made so little of, while "the Boston street row, where a handful rioted and three were killed, not only gets chronicled under its historic name of the 'Boston Massacre,' but occupies six pages with illustrative matter and half a page of Dr. Wilson's text."



THOMAS E. WATSON.

Other American historians are similarly brought to book, among them President Roosevelt, Henry Cabot Lodge, Henry Adams, Professor Channing, of Harvard, and William Eleroy Curtis.

He himself, however, overlooks the fact that in the War of 1812 the navy, which gave so good an account of itself, was manned for the most part by New Englanders, altho he scores the disloyalty of New England and the poor work of her troops in the Northwest. His opinion of John Adams is a questionable one, as also the suggestion that Washington was somewhat doty as president and allowed Hamilton to sway him hither and yon. For Hamilton Mr. Watson has no use whatsoever, and calls him "the father of plutocracy, the trust, and the lobby."

Of Thomas Jefferson, statesman, philosopher, lover, inventor, scholar,

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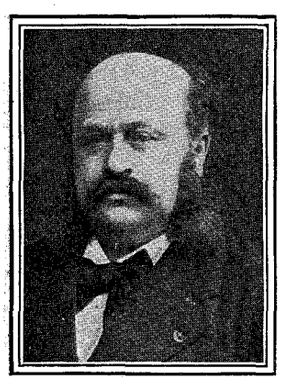
writer, fiddler, good friend, and good fellow, who at one time or another was lawyer, minister to France, President, farmer, and sage of Monticello, the portrait is drawn with sympathetic and realistic power. The man who noted down in his diary every penny paid for a stamp or a haircut was so lavish in hospitality that his household expenses for one year mounted up to almost $20,000. He sank a fortune in building Monticello, his magnificent home, and other fortunes in keeping it an open house. Like Madison and Monroe, Jefferson in his old age found himself burdened with debt. Perhaps no chapter in the volume presents the man in so bright a light as that entitled "Jefferson at Monticello." Kind and considerate in all the relations of husband, father, neighbor, and master, loving to see bright faces around him, loving to please others, considerate, helpful and optimistic, confident, contented and industrious, reaping happiness by sowing it—such was Jefferson in his mountain home in the sunlit years before the war. Mr. Watson closes the chapter with an eloquent summary of his character.

A DRAMATIC FIGURE IN JOURNALISM.

MEMOIRS OF MONSIEUR DE BLOWITZ. Cloth, 321 pp. Price, $4 net. Doubleday, Page & Co.

IT is with the idea of superseding certain fantastic stories that have been told about himself that the illustrious correspondent of the *London Times* applies himself to the task of telling his own story in his own way; and his way is to begin at the beginning. "On December 28, 1825," he says, "at the Chateâu of Blowsky, in the region of Pilsna in Bohemia, there was born a child with a big head and a feeble body." The doctors found the bantling ill-formed, that its heart was weak, and that it could not live. So the mother, being a practical person, decided that the proper thing to do was to baptize her "bad bargain" then and there; and presently it is entered upon the ancient register of the chapel of Blowsky as Henri-Georges-Stephan-Adolphe. Thus, on the authority of that very respectable and veracious chronicle, the great correspondent of *The Times* feels free to assure the world that he was born and within twenty-four hours baptized a Roman Catholic; so that there really was not time for him to become a Jew, as some have asserted.



M. DE BLOWITZ.

When he who was one day to startle the Berlin Congress with a journalistic bomb, and to extort expressions of admiration from Thiers and Bismarck and the Sultan, was but a neglected stripling of six years, something happened. For lack of a bridge over a stream the map of his life was changed. One summer evening, when his mother was away and his father had gone hunting with some lords and gentlemen, and the child, unattended, was playing in the park, a gipsy cart, drawn by an emaciated horse, "driven by a sordid old woman in shreds" and attended by a rickety Bohemian, appeared at a turn of the road. There were several nondescript children in the cart—among them a pretty little girl with a gorgeous doll. *The Times* correspondent has forgotten how it happened that he found himself among them, jolting and wondering; but there he was—kidnaped! Said the woman: "If you are a good boy, we will let you beat a drum and blow a trumpet all the time." And then she brought out a box, and displayed a fascinating and even prophetic assortment of fantastic dresses, spangles and wigs and drums and horns. It can hardly be claimed that on this occasion the adolescent scribe was "good," acccording to the Bohemian decalogue; but it is apparent that he has been blowing trumpets and beating drums ever since, and that spangles and wigs have been as familiar to him as cipher-despatches.

Presently there were clatter of hoofs and cry of hounds. The lean man and the "sordid" woman abandoned the cart and took to the river, swimming across. The parental Blowitz found his "hopeful" in the cart; and all that *The Times* correspondent concerns himself to remember and record is the question: "If that gipsy had taken the way to the right where the roads parted—*Que diable!* What should I have been doing now?"

That boy never went to school. He rambled much and read and worked but little. But he cultivated a wonderful memory—so potent among the forces of a journalist. He had long hankered to have for his own a big stick with a gold knob that was his father's. "I will give you the stick," said Blowitz, "if you will recite to me by heart to-morrow the 'Legend of Kosros the Wise.'" "Kosros the Wise" is as long as Shakespeare's "Hamlet." The next day "I went to my father's room and without mistake or hesitation recited all the wonderful legend. I did not keep the stick; but thank Heaven! I kept my memory"—as the reader will realize when he learns how *The Times* correspondent captured the preamble to the Berlin Treaty.

When the governor of Croatia—a sort of bashi-bazouk, with a hooked nose and a hard face—entertained the young De Blowitz on his travels, a wretched woman who was a fortune-teller contributed to the diversions of the evening in that rude smoky room with the low ceiling. She was reading the lines in the palms of the governor's escort. When she came to De Blowitz, "Oh," she cried, "there's a fine fate in store for you. You'll sit down with kings, and have princes at your table!" All that night De Blowitz dreamed of conquests and kingdoms. "I tried to imagine," he writes, "all the situations which might permit me to sit down with sovereigns." But he never once thought of the only chance that could bring such a wonderful thing to pass.

Toward the close of these truly fascinating pages, the famous correspondent pauses at times to moralize in an impressive strain. For example, he is solicitous to show how almost impossible it is for "those two complex beings," the diplomatist and journalist, to have any intercourse with each other. "In order for them to agree, the former must keep silent about what he knows, and the latter must talk about that of which he knows nothing." The journalist must remember that the true diplomatist necessarily knows nothing of gratitude; that he regards the journalist as an auxiliary, sometimes useful, always dangerous; "and that he will never hesitate to throw him overboard when it may suit his notions of 'duty' to do so."

THE CAPITAL CITY OF CATHOLICISM.

PILGRIM-WALKS IN ROME. By P. J. Chandlery, S.J. Cloth, 6½ x 8½ in. 468 pp. Price, $1.50. The Messenger.

"AH, how beautiful must the heavenly Jerusalem be if earthly Rome is so glorious!" exclaimed St. Fulgentius, of Carthage, who visited the tombs of the apostles in 500 A.D. Those things that make Rome supremely glorious in the eyes of devout Catholics are set forth in this volume, which is intended primarily to be an ecclesiastical Baedeker. But it is more. By dipping into its pages, even stay-at-homes—pilgrims in spirit only—can in imagination "visit the venerable churches of the city, kneel at the altars where the saints have prayed, press their lips to the shrines of the martyrs, see the places associated with the memories of God's holy ones, and visit their homes, the scenes of their labors and conflicts, and the spots hallowed by their virtues or bedewed with their blood."

If the book does not prove a valuable companion to both classes of readers, it can not be through lack of mass. It contains an almost overwhelming collection of facts, names, and dates, all arranged in a convenient and accessible form, but not without some repetition. The author spent many years in Rome and, like Petrarch, saw all the things of which he writes with fervor and in a spirit of devotion. The book is accordingly a Catholic book of Rome, and secular matters, such as monuments of antiquity and treasures of art, find only a secondary place in its pages. So rich are the religious treasures and traditions of the Eternal City that even here the treatment is necessarily condensed. Enough is given to keep the conscientious pilgrim busy many, many months; but should he desire more complete information on interesting points, sources are indicated where he can satisfy himself to the full.

The greater and specially privileged churches of Rome are the Basilicas. The five major or patriarchal basilicas are St. John Lateran, St. Peter's, St. Mary Major, S. Lorenzo, and Santa Croce, besides which there are eight minor ones. Concerning these there is something that not every one knows. "On reaching the Eternal City," says the author, "the visitor first directs his steps to St. Peter's, and feels that he has at length reached the goal of his pilgrimage when kneeling before the apostle's tomb beneath Michelangelo's wonderful dome. On leaving the basilica, he is surprised to learn that St. Peter's, with all its stateliness, is not the most important of the churches in Rome, that St. John Lateran, the Pope's Cathedral, ranks first in dignity among all the churches of the Eternal City and of the world. Its chapter takes precedence over that of St. Peter's, and every Pope, when elected, comes here to be crowned and to be solemnly enthroned as the successor of St. Peter."

Beginning with St. Peter's on the Vatican, these Pilgrim-Walks take us to the Cœlian hill on which stands the church of St. John Lateran, to the Esquiline where is St. Mary Major, thence to St. Paul's, St. Lorenzo without the walls, and Santa Croce in Gerusalemme. Other trips take in the Capitol, the Forum, and the Catacombs and the famous hills on which the ancient mistress of the world is built. Of these latter the Palatine, with a history stretching back 3,000 years, is the most celebrated. Its ancient grandeur is gone, but its religious memories are kept green. There on the slope a chapel marks the site of the martyrdom of St. Sebastian. On that spot, further up, St. Paul was tried by Nero, A.D. 63, and set at liberty.

And thus it goes all through the book, with historical sketches, holy memories, descriptions, and traditions, not a few of the latter being of doubtful authenticity. With this manual in hand, the pious pilgrim can not possibly miss much, if anything, of churchly Rome. And as Prudentius wrote in the fifth century, "few know how full Rome is of saints and sanctuaries, and how thickly her soil is covered with the tombs of martyrs."

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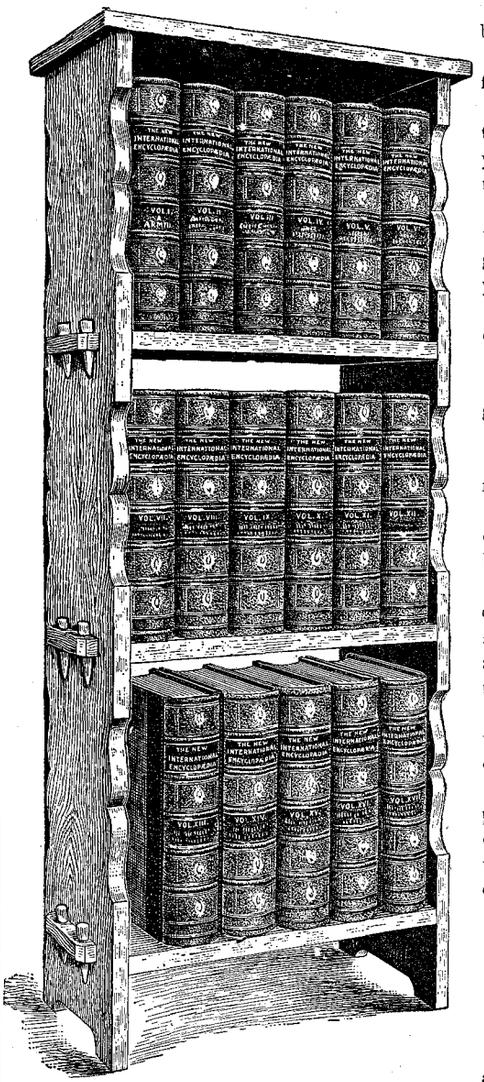

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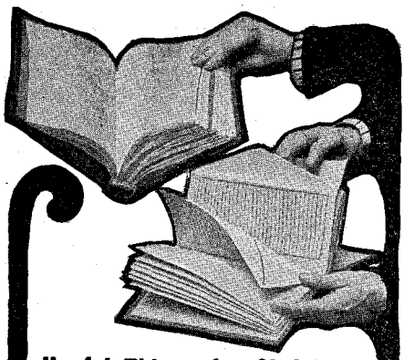

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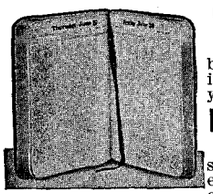

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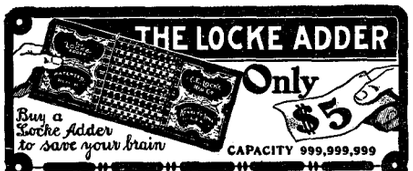

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE LITERARY DIGEST is in receipt of the following books:

"Letters of Prince Bismarck to his Wife."—Translated by Armin Harder. (D. Appleton & Co., $1 net.)

"My Struggle for Light."—R. Wimmer. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, $1.25.)

"The Atonement and the Modern Mind."—James Denny. (A. C. Armstrong & Son, $1 net.)

"Japanese Physical Training."—H. Irving Hancock. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, $1.25.)

"The Theory of Advertising."—Walter Dill Scott. (Small, Maynard & Co.)

"New England History in Ballads."—Edward Everett Hale and his children. (Little, Brown & Co., $2 net.)

"The Reign of Queen Isyl."—Gelett Burgess and Will Irwin. (McClure, Phillips & Co., $1.50.)

"Petronilla Heroven."—Una L. Silberrad. (Doubleday, Page & Co., $1.50.)

"Illustrative Lesson Notes."—Rev. Thomas B. Neely. (Eaton & Mains, $1.25.)

"The Holladay Case."—Burton E. Stevenson. (Henry Holt & Co.)

"The Second Tour of Doctor Syntax in Search of Consolation." New edition. (D. Appleton & Co.)

"The Life of a Sportsman."—Nimrod. (D. Appleton & Co.)

"The Analysis of the Hunting Field." (D. Appleton & Co.)

"The Fables of Æsop and Others." A new edition. (D. Appleton & Co.)

"Windsor Castle."—W. Harrison Ainsworth, Esq. (D. Appleton & Co.)

"The English Dance of Death."—By author of "Dr. Syntax." (D. Appleton & Co.)

"The Tower of London."—William Harrison Ainsworth. (D. Appleton & Co.)

"Oriental America and its Problems."—Theodore W. Noyes, Washington, D. C.

"Builders of the Beautiful."—H. L. Piner. (Funk & Wagnalls Company, $1.50 net.)

"Planets and People, 1904."—Ormsby's Annual Prognostigator and Year-book of the Heavens. (The Ormsby Company, Chicago, $1.)

"Elsieville."—Charles B. Holmes. (Published by author, at 132 Nassau St., N. Y.)

"The Story of the Atlantic Cable."—Charles Bright. (D. Appleton & Co., $1.)

"The Comedie of Errors."—William Shakespeare. "First Folio" edition, edited by Charlotte Porter and Helen A. Clarke. (Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., $0.50.)

"The Singing Leaves."—Josephine P. Peabody. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., $1 net.)

"The Cynic's Calendar of Revised Wisdom for 1904."—Oliver Herford. (Elder & Co., San Francisco, $0.75.)

CURRENT POETRY.

The Earth's Remembrance.

By ANNE O'HAGAN.

In those still places dear to thee of old
The Spring, all tremulous, is waiting thee.
The willows fringe with frail green tracery
The winding river marges. Fold from fold
The maples blush to leafage, and in gold
The tasseled locusts deck them gallantly.
With song the woods are bannered, tree to tree,
The young year's nuptial hymn, ecstatic, bold.

O little heart, that loved this beauty so,
What lure has caught thee that thou comest not?
The tender Spring awaits. Hast thou forgot
Her loveliness—the green, the gold, the glow?
Hast thou forgot her wilding melodies?
What sounds enthrall thee, far away from these?

—

There fell a day of grief in thy green haunt,

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And Spring, whose tryst thou wouldst not keep
slipped by.
Now Summer hails thee with a surer cry,
Full-bosomed Summer whom thou canst not daunt
With unresponsiveness. Her joyous vaunt
She makes that thou wilt not her call deny—
Her clarion call, blown to the wide-arched sky
Through rose-lipped trumpets, that the thick
vines flaunt.

But to her round hallo of bloom and bird
Thou makest never answer; and the breeze
Brings back but echo through the dark-leafed
trees.
Oh, wherefore art thou mute? Hast thou not
heard?
Dost not thou know thine own place waits for
thee,
Resplendent, lone, in June's rich blazonry?

Since glamour and since glory both in vain
Besought the praising of thine eyes, her last
Appeal thy comrade makes, and wealth amassed
She flings thy brethren. All the tawny grain
And russet fruitage that they count for gain,
Are but a little bribe from out her vast
Desire of thee, that, grateful, thou mayst cast
Thy silence off, forbear thy strange disdain.

See with what beauty she bestows the gift—
What veils of woven amethyst enfold
The teeming fields, what ruby and clear gold
Are piled across the hills in evening drift,
What pungent wines are spilled upon the air.
Dost thou deny her still, benign and fair?

Then said the earth, when the last hope was sped,
"All, all is vain; my comrade comes no more,
The one who loved me, whom I lovéd sore.
Die, all ye futile things, since she is dead.
Turn stone, my breasts; breed not as ye have
bred.
Fall, foolish leaves, and bitter rains, downpour.
Rage thou a flood, slight brook, efface the shore,
Efface the paths that she no more will tread."

So was it done, and now, O little heart,
The place that thou didst love lies desolate
From far-rimmed hill to glade most intimate.
And yet—is it more lovely where thou art?
Does deeper silence fold thee there? Do snows
More wide and white enwrap thy soft repose?

—From *Scribner's Magazine.*

The Quest of the Local Color.

By WALLACE IRWIN.

O bear me away on the wings of the night
And put me in touch with the stars;
For it's new local color of which I would write.
And I think that I'll seek it in Mars.

I've scoured all the earth to its farthest Demesne
For some as-yet-undescribed spot,
And long have I fared, but yet none have I seen
Not used long ago in a plot.

Did I try South America? Davis has that.
The Isthmus? O Henry's been there.
The Klondike? Jack London, a fierce autocrat,
Has gobbled the North as his share.

Kentucky belongs to the mountaineer, Fox,
Wyoming was Wister's on sight,
And Parker has Canada's rivers and rocks
Fenced in by his own copyright.

I ride through the mesas and ranges in vain
In search of some spot in the West

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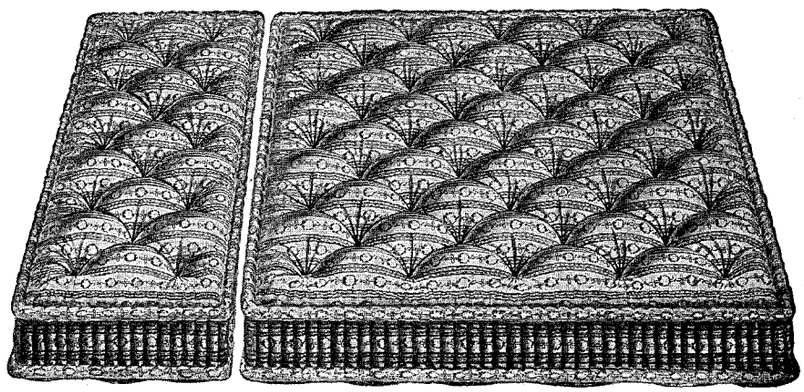

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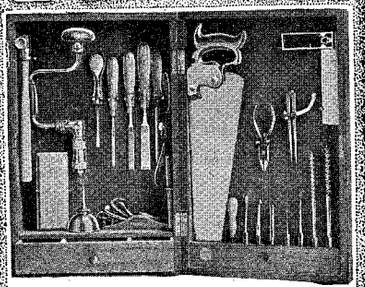

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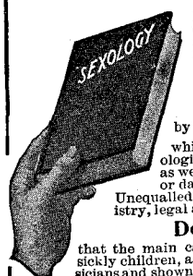

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Which might have escaped "The Virginian's" train—
"Red Saunders" has gobbled the rest.

Lo, Duncan has left not a comma to write
On the sad little Newfoundland isle,
And how can I dream of New England in sight
Of Mary E. Wilkins's style?

I fly to the East, and 'midst races of men,
With names unpronounceable, probe
Till bang against Kipling I come with my pen;
For he claims the rest of the globe.

Then bear me away on ethereal swells
And put me in touch with the stars—
But hold up a minute! There's Herbert G. Wells
Already located in Mars.

—From *The Bookman*.

The Soul's Bath.

By W. WILFRED CAMPBELL.

At even when the roseate deeps
Of daylight dim from heaven's bars
The Soul her earthworn garment slips
And naked stands beneath the stars;

And there unto that river vast,
That mighty tide of night, whose girth
With splendid planets brimming past,
Doth wash the ancient rim of earth;

She comes and plunges in; and laves
Her weariness in that vast tide,
That life-renewing deep, whose waves
Are wide as night is wide.

Then from the pure translucent flow
Of that unplumbed, invigorate sea,
Godlike in Truth's white spirit-glow
She stands unshamed and free.

—From *The Atlantic Monthly*.

Wrinkles.

By JOHN B. TABB.

This, biting Frost—this, branding Sun—
This, Wind or drenching Rain hath done:
Each perfecting the Sculptor's plan
Upon the Godlike image—Man.

—From *The Independent*.

PERSONALS.

The Missionary Who Saved a City.—During the Boxer rebellion, the railroad tracks laid by the Russians in Manchuria were torn up, and the Russian troops were sent on an expedition to punish the Chinese insurgents. The Russians marched from city to city destroying and looting, meeting with practically no resistance. But at one place something unexpected happened, as told by Mr H. J. Whigham in *V. C.* (London):

The Russians marched up to the gates and were just about to enter when the Boxers opened fire upon them. The army was withdrawn, the batteries were got out, and the general was just going to smash up the city when the Scotch missionary, Doctor Westwater [acting as interpreter] approached him and asked for a moment's truce,

"I undertake," he said, "to enter the city and to induce it to surrender without a shot being fired on one condition."

"Which is?"

"That there shall be no destruction and no looting; none whatever."

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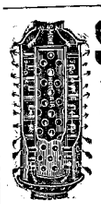

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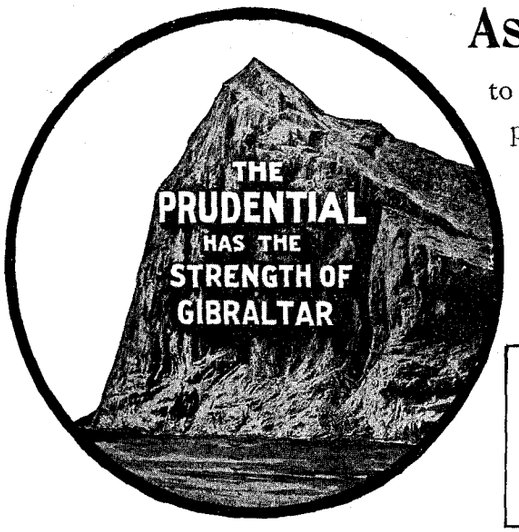

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The general yielded, and mounting his pony, Doctor Westwater rode forward to the city alone.

Now when you consider that the city was full of Boxers, you will realize that it was a pretty considerable act of courage for a missionary, of all men, to ride unarmed through those seething streets. This was what Westwater did. The city was a roaring hive of armed Boxers, muskets peeping from roof and window, and the streets ringing with the noise of arms. At the missionary quarters Doctor Westwater was fortunate enough to find a Christian convert, who conducted him to a place where the merchant gild were holding a sort of cabinet council.

Westwater explained matters, appealed to the citizens to avoid bloodshed, and pledged his word that neither destruction nor looting should mark the Russian occupation of their city. The appeal was successful, and he rode quietly back to the Russian general.

The general was an awful brute, as bad as he could be, but Westwater's action seemed to impress him, and his orders were very exact. During his occupation of the city there was no single instance of crime. Westwater's gallant action, too, impressed even the Boxers. They named him the savior of the town, and when, some months later, he took his departure for home, he was made the honored guest of extraordinary banquets, and was accompanied to the railway station by all the grateful citizens, half of them waving flags and half of them banging musical instruments.

An Author Abroad.—Edmund Clarence Stedman, the veteran author, is the subject of an amusing anecdote which is current just now in literary circles. Says *Harper's Weekly:*

Mr. Stedman, it seems, while on a visit to France, stopped one day on a country road to admire the surrounding country. As he stood gazing meditatively over the fields, he noticed that several peasants who passed him on the road bowed and took off their hats to him. Mr. Stedman was at first surprised at their salutes in his honor, and wondered for whom these polite peasants mistook him; but as tthey were repeated by peasant after peasant, he finally concluded that his reputation had penetrated farther than he had ventured to suppose. As he moved away from the spot he happened to glance behind him. He had been standing in front of a statue of the Virgin.

His Own Manuscript.—George Ade, in the early days of his career, before his "Fables in Slang" had brought him fame, says the New York *Tribune*, called one morning in Chicago upon a Sunday editor, on a mission from a theatrical manager.

"I have brought you this manuscript"— he began; but the editor, looking up at the tall, timid youth, interrupted;

"Just throw the manuscript in the waste-basket, please," he said. "I'm very busy just now, and haven't time to do it myself."

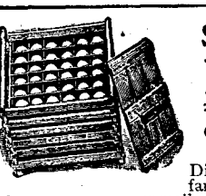
Mr. Ade obeyed calmly. He resumed:

"I have come from the —— Theater, and the manuscript I have just thrown in the waste basket is your comic farce of 'The Erring Son,' which the manager asks me to return to you with thanks. He suggests that you sell it to an undertaker, to be read at funerals."

Then Mr. Ade smiled gently and withdrew.

An Oriental Love-Letter.—English is put to strange and eloquent uses in the Orient. Following is a letter addressed to a native gentleman by a youth seeking the hand of his daughter. Here is the note as printed in *Harper's Weekly:*

"To Baboo ——, Paternal father of Miss ——. Dear Sir,—It is with faltering penmanship that I write to have communication with you about the prospective condition of your damsel offspring.



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For some remote time to past a secret passion has firing my bosom internally with loving for your daughter. I have navigated every channel in the magnitude of my extensive jurisdiction to cruelly smother the growing love-knot that is being constructed in my withinside, but the humid lamp of affection trimmed by Cupid's productive hand still nourishes my love-sickened heart. Needless would it be for me to numerically extemporize the great conflagration that has been generated in my head and heart. Hoping that having debated this proposition to your pregnant mind you will concordantly corroborate in espousing your female progeny to my tender bosom and thereby acquire me into your family circle. Your dutiful Son-in-law."

The Modern Muse.—R. K. Munkittrick, the humorist, is said to have turned out more verses, paragraphs, and short sketches than can be credited to any other living writer. He always believed in quick sales and small profits. Says *The Saturday Evening Post* (Philadelphia):

His favorite plan has been, from his New Jersey home, to send manuscript to a dozen different New York periodicals, wait twenty-four hours, and then journey to the city and go about from office to office gathering the checks or manuscripts, as the case might be. He calls this "beating the financial bushes."

One day several years ago Mr. Munkittrick saw displayed in a clothing shop window a pair of trousers that he greatly admired—and needed. They were marked, "Five Dollars." The hunt that day had been fruitless. He walked around the block twice in a thoughtful attitude, stepped into a protecting doorway, took out a pad of paper wrote a set of verses. He took them to a near-by editorial office, sold them for five dollars and returned to the clothier's.

"But, see here," said the salesman as he started to roll up the trousers, "you ought to have the coat, too. Eight dollars—great bargain." Munkittrick looked at it and agreed with the man. Going out he again circled the block and sought the doorway. Approaching the editor a few minutes later, he said:

"Really, I didn't finish that poem. Don't you see how abruptly it ends? Here's some more to round it out and give it point. Twice as much as before, but you can have it for eight dollars."

The editor read the verses, and with some show of hesitancy wrote another order on the business office. Munkittrick hurried away and made the coat his own,

"That't all right for now," said the clerk, "but when cooler weather comes on you'll need the waistcoat. Three dollars—easy worth four."

"See here," answered Munkittrick with some indignation, "do you think I'm going to stoop to grinding? Good literature isn't produced that way. Besides, that fellow won't stand another line," and he walked out with the coat and trousers, leaving the clerk in a state of mystification.

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

An Exception.—FRIEND: "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world."

HENPEKT: "Not much, it don't!. Mrs. Henpekt makes me put the baby to sleep."—*Puck.*

Bound to Float.—PATRICK: "Shure, Moike, if this bloomin' auld boat was to sink, how would yez get ashore?"

MICHAEL: "It's mesilf that would float on me face, begorra."

PATRICK: "Yez have the face all roight, Moike me bye, but what would prevint it from sinkin'?"

MICHAEL: "The Cork that's in it, yez haythen!"—Philadelphia *Telegraph.*

He Had Promised.—The fair bride wept copiously. "Boo-hoo!" she screamed. "You are a mean old thing; so there! You didn't eat one of my biscuits!" "But, darling——" "There is no excuse, sir! Didn't you tell me when you mar-

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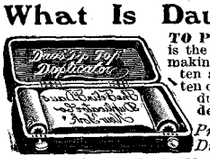

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ried me—boo-hoo!—that you would die for me?" —Baltimore *News*.

Utilizing Her Resources. — "For heaven's sake, Mary, what are you doing with that egg-beater?" "Sure, mum, didn't th' master tell me as how he wanted me to mix 'im some lather f'r th' shavin' iv him?"—Baltimore *News*.

Out in the Cold.—SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER: "Why did Adam and Eve clothe themselves after the fall?"

BRIGHT SCHOLAR: "'Cause winter comes after fall."—*Puck*.

Little Red Riding-Hood.—Little Emily Kingsbury, aged four, who attends the kindergarten and calls it the "kidney-garden," was being examined as to the senses.

"What are your ears for, Emily?"

"To hear with," was the answer.

"And what are your eyes for?"

"To see with."

"And what is your nose for?"

"To blow," was the innocent answer.—*Lippincott's Magazine*.

Just What She Wanted. — BELLA: "This shade of ribbon can not be matched."

NELLIE: "No? Then give it to me, dear."

BELLA: "Why?"

NELLIE: "I need the exercise."—*Puck*.

He Had Him There.—BOBBY: "Father!"

FATHER: "What is it, my boy?"

BOBBY: "Which one of the twins do you think looks most alike?"—*Puck*.

Answered.—THE SQUIRE'S PRETTY DAUGHTER (examining the village school): "Now, children, can you tell me what a miracle is?"

The children looked at one another, but remained silent.

"Can no one answer this question?" the new cnrate asked, who was standing behind the squire's daughter.

A little girl was suddenly struck with a brilliant idea. She held up her hand excitedly.

"Well, Nellie?" the squire's daughter asked, smiling approval.

"Please, miss," the small child replied breathlessly, "mother says 'twill be a miracle if you don't marry the new curate."—*Tit-Bits*.

Cake was Sufficient.—WIFE: "John, is there any poison in the house?"

HUSBAND: "Yes; but why do you ask?"

WIFE: "I want to sprinkle some on this piece of angel cake and put it where the mice will get it. Wouldn't that kill them?"

HUSBAND: "Sure; but it isn't necessary to waste the poison."—Chicago *News*.

His Married Name.—"Can any one tell me why Saul was called Paul?" asked a Sunday-school teacher of her class. After a long silence Johnny answered, "I guess it was because he got married."—*Lippincott's Magazine*.

Near Thing.—FATHER: "What, help you with your algebra! Never! The idea of your teacher expecting me to do her work! (Great Scott! That was a close shave!)"—Chicago *News*.

A Remarkable Pencil.—"Daddy," said a boy to his father, "I've got a pencil which will write green, purple, crimson, or any color you like."

"Not the same pencil, my son."

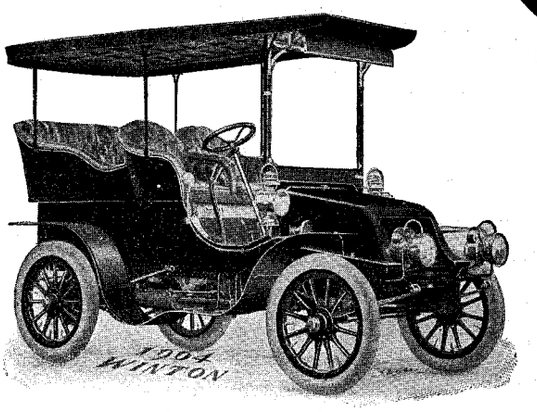
"You daren't bet me sixpence it won't, daddy."

"I'll give you sixpence if it will," said the old man.

The youngster dived into his pocket, produced the stump of a common lead-pencil, and wrote on a piece of paper the words—"magenta, green, crimson, purple," etc.

"There, daddy, say it won't write any color you like now. Fork over that sixpence."—*Tit-Bits*.

Breaking it Gently. — RAILWAY OFFICIAL (breaking the news gently to the wife of a com-



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Winton Touring Car

A general design at once graceful and elegant, an exquisitely beautiful finish, and a perfectly balanced motor, a buoyant spring suspension and luxurious upholstery, combining to assure thorough comfort. To bump over ruts, to lose hat pins and to be "rough handled" generally, is impossible in the Winton—the palace car of automobiledom.

The new 20-horse power 1904 model combines ever so many features of excellence. It is the season's distinctive success. Among other features, the new rear wheel and tire equipment argue for comfort and an absence of bothersome tire troubles.

To men and women alike will appeal our improved lubricating system. The new method of ignition is far superior to anything previously incorporated in automobile equipment, and the new transmission insures the greatest degree of comfort and satisfaction to operator and passengers.

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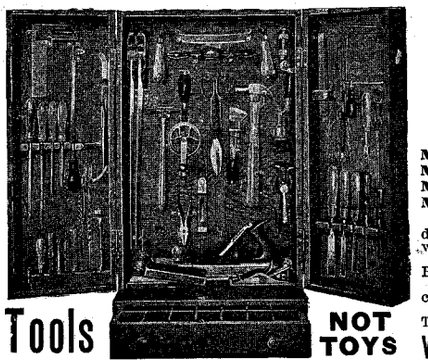

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No. 17.	23 "	15 "	7 "	30 "	**15.00**
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mercial traveler): "Ahem! Madam, be calm! Your husband has met with a slight—that is to say, one of the front wheels of a passenger locomotive struck him on the cheek, and——"

WIFE: "Well, sir, you needn't come round here trying to collect damages. You won't get a penny from me. If your company can't keep its property out of danger, it'll have to take the consequences. You should have your carriages insured."—*Tit-Bits.*

A Few Raps.—

He of least understanding struts and sneers most.

Justice may have a leaden heel but she has a pointed toe.

A fair division is where where we get the lion's share.

"A fool and his money are soon parted" by the wise man who gets between them.

The silence which is golden is that which we never hear.

Because a man likes work it does not follow that he likes to be worked.

We look for our brother's faults with a searchlight: on our own we turn the dark lantern.

Most of us have very clear ideas of what the world owes us; too few of us trouble to think of what we owe the world.

If we had used the advice which we have given away we should need none from others.

"Every little helps," but that is little consolation to the one who gets little.

The meek may inherit the earth, but that does not hinder those who are not meek getting possession of it.

There will be no marrying in heaven, because those who have had that experience will not need a repetition, while those who have not will not be required to go through Purgatory again.

—From *Rips and Raps*, by L. DE V. MATTHEWMAN.

The Cynic's Revised Wisdom.—

Look before you sleep.

Many are called but few get up.

It's a strong stomach that has no turning.

Saint heart ne'er won fair lady.

A church fair exchange is robbery.

Fools rush in and win—where angels fear to tread.

Consistency thou art a mule.

Economy is the thief of time.

A bird on a bonnet is worth ten on a plate.

What is home without another.

A lie in time saves nine.

Matri-money is the root of all evil.

A word to the wise is resented.

Where there's a will there's a lawsuit.

He laughs best whose laugh lasts.

Misery loves company, but company does not reciprocate.

One touch of nature makes the whole world squirm.

Some are born widows, some achieve widowhood, whilst others have widows thrust upon them.

—From *The Cynic's Calendar of Revised Wisdom for 1904.*

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If not they will appear straight and trim if you wear our easy Pneumatic and Cushion-Rubber Forms. (Patents applied for throughout the world.) Adjusted instantly; defy detection. Immediately adopted by men of fashion. Write for full description, mailed under plain letter seal.

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14,983 Appointments were made to Civil Service places during the past year. This was 4,693 more than were appointed any previous year. Excellent opportunities for young people. Hundreds of those whom we prepare for the examinations are annually appointed. Full information about all government positions free. Write for our Civil Service Catalogue and dates of examinations.

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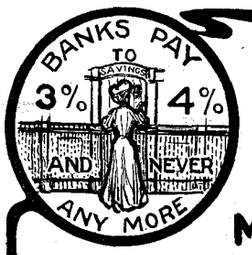
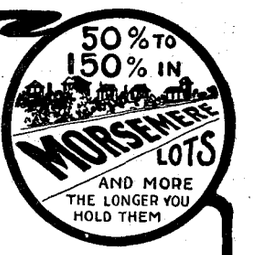
223-25 Pa. Ave. S. E., WASHINGTON, D. C.



NOT WHAT YOU SAVE BUT HOW YOU SAVE IT MAKES YOU RICH



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$30 down and $10 monthly secures a pair of lots, 50 x 100 feet, at

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Values have already increased 10% to 25% and are steadily increasing. Such an investment encourages saving, for lots bought now will gain steadily in value and show magnificent profits a few years hence. Many purchasers of our Grantwood property have made 40% to 100% in four years.

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Tickled the Children.—LADY (to applicant for position of nurse-maid): "Why were you discharged from your last place?"

APPLICANT: "Because I sometimes forgot to wash the children, ma'am."

CHORUS OF CHILDREN: "O, mamma, please engage her!"—*Tit-Bits.*

Current Events.

Foreign.

PANAMA AND COLOMBIA.

December 1.—It is said that General Reyes, the Colombian commissioner, would only be received by this Government to discuss terms of peace between Colombia and Panama.

December 2.—The Panama Canal bill is signed at Panama.

December 5.—General Reyes is received by President Roosevelt at the White House.

German Consul at Colon extends formal recognition to the Panama republic.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

November 30.—Señor Calvo, of Argentina, is appointed umpire in the case of the Franco-Venezuelan claims.

The British West Indies squadron is ordered to La Guayra, Venezuela, in connection with England's protest against the closing of the Orinoco to foreign trade.

It is announced that Great Britain has no intention of pushing its Tibetan expedition to Lhasa.

December 1.—A despatch from Paris says Russia and Japan are on the verge of a peaceful settlement on the basis of mutual recognition of their respective rights in Korea and Manchuria.

December 2.—Korea opens the port of Yongampho to foreign trade.

British House of Lords decides finally that women may not become qualified lawyers in England.

December 3.—The Spanish Cabinet resigns.

The German *Reichstag* is opened by Chancellor von Bülow, representing the Emperor.

December 4.—Negotiations are opened for the organization of an international administration for the preservation of order in the Balkans.

December 5.—Yuan Shi Kai is promoted to the command of the Chinese army and navy; Empress-Dowager issues an order for the reorganization of the army.

Roger Casement, British consul in Congo, who was appointed by the Government to investigate conditions there, reports that the atrocities are fully confirmed.

United States Minister Allen, at Seoul, confers with the Emperor of Japan in reference

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to the request of the United States for the opening of the port of Wiju.

Domestic.

CONGRESS.

November 30.—Major General Brooke, testifying before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, accuses General Wood of insubordination while stationed at Santiago.

December 1.—*Senate:* Senator Morgan introduces resolutions providing for an inquiry into isthmian canal matters. Senator Penrose introduces a resolution authorizing the Senate Postal Committee to call for all papers connected with the recent investigation of the postal affairs, and, if necessary, the committee is to make another investigation.

House: The tariff is discussed.

December 2.—It is announced that President Roosevelt will not withdraw the nomination of General Wood from the Senate, and does not intend to call him home to give evidence in the investigation.

December 4.—It is believed in Washington that the nomination of General Wood will be confirmed by the Senate.

December 5.—*House:* Speaker Cannon announces the House committees.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

November 30.—Sixteen hundred cases of typhoid fever are reported at Butler, Pa.

The United States Supreme Court declares the Kansas eight-hour law constitutional.

The United States decides to recognize King Peter of Servia.

Bribery on an extensive scale is disclosed at Grand Rapids.

December 1.—Receivers are named in Chicago for John Alexander Dowie, who is bankrupt; constables take possession of Zion City property.

December 2.—Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, the new British Ambassador, is received by the President at the White House.

Admiral Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, in his annual report recommends a general staff for the navy.

December 4.—Report of Secretary Moody on the work of the navy for last year is made public.

Daughters of the Confederacy, in session at Dallas, claim that the President in his attitude toward Panama indorses secession.

December 5.—The new cruiser *Des Moines* exceeds her contract requirement for speed in the test off Cape Ann, Mass.

December 6.—James N. Tyner, against whom charges are made by Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Bristow in the report on the investigation of fraud in the Post-Office Department, charges, in a letter to the President, prejudgment of his case and denies all allegations.

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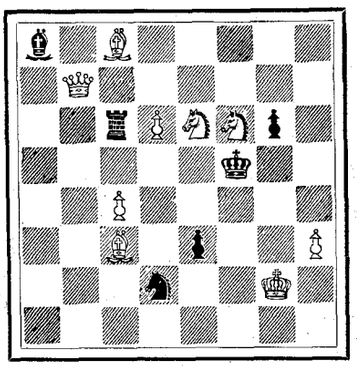
Problem 886.

By J. CAUVEREN.

A Prize-winner.

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

b 1 B 5; 1 Q 6; 2 r P S S p 1; 5 k 2; 2 P 5; 2 B 1 p 2 P; 3 S 2 K 1; 8.

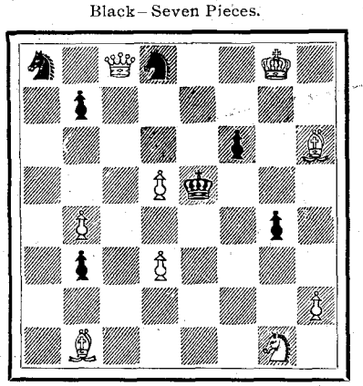
White mates in two moves.

Problem 887.

By A. G. FELLOWS.

First Prize, *Birmingham News* Tourney.

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

S 1 Q S 2 K 1; 1 p 6; 5 p 1 B; 3 P k 3; 1 P 4 p 1; 1 p 1 P 4; 7 P; 1 B 4 S 1.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 880. Key-move. Q—Kt 4.

Solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. W. Barry, Boston; A. C. White, New York City; the Rev. J. G. Law, Walhalla, S. C.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.; C. N. F., Rome, Ga.; F. Gamage, Westboro, Mass.; O. C. Pitkin, Syracuse, N. Y.; T. Hilgers, Union Hill, N. J.; Dr. R. O'C., San Francisco; C. B. E., Youngstown, O.; W. T. St., Auburn, Grossepointe Farms, Mich.; "Twenty-three," Philadelphia; Z. G., Detroit; J. H. Louden, Bloomington, Ind.; J. E. Wharton, Sherman, Tex.; Arata, New York City; C. W. Showalter, Washington, D. C.; E. A. C., Kinderhook, N. Y.; Dr. J. H. S., Geneva, N. Y.; the Rev. W. Rech, Freeport, Ill.; W. R. Coumbe, Mulberry, Fla.; Colonel Hesseltine, Boston; A. H., Newton Center, Mass.; N. Kahan, Holyoke, Mass; E. A. Kusel, Oroville, Cal.; D. H. Wiltsie, Jamestown, N. Y.

Comments: "Too aggressive key; but the variations are ingenions"—M. M.; "Not very strong for a first-prizer"—G. D.; "I have seen few 2-ers that were better"—F. S. F.; "Disarms criticism"—J. G. L.; "A model of its kind"—J. H. S.;

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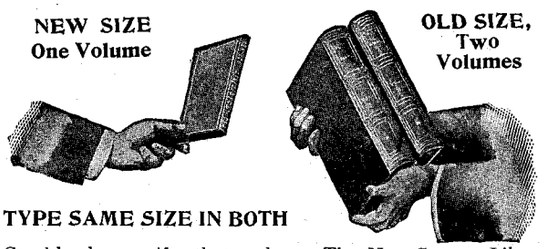

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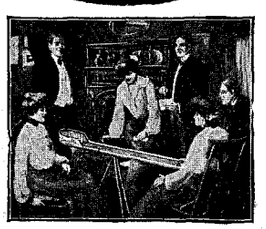

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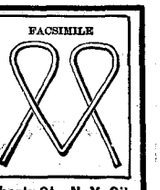

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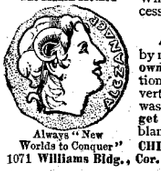

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Sicilian Defense.

MIESES. *White.*	FOX. *Black.*	MIESES. *White.*	FOX. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—Q B 4	22 Q—Q 2	K—Kt 2
2 Kt—Q B 3	Kt—Q B 3	23 P—K 5 (a)	P x P
3 K Kt—K 2	Kt—B 3	24 R x Kt	K x R
4 P—Q 3	P—Q 3	25 P x P ch	K—K 2 (b)
5 P—K Kt 3	P—K Kt 3	26 Q—B 4	B—B 3
6 B—Kt 2	B—Kt 2	27 B x B	Q x B ch
7 Castles	Castles	28 Kt—K 4	Q—Q 4
8 P—B 4	B—Q 2	29 Kt—B 3	Q x K P
9 P—K R 3	Kt—Kt sq	30 Q—K 3	P—Kt 3
10 P—B 5	P—K 3	31 K Kt—Kt 5	Q x KKtP(c)
11 P x Kt P	B P x P	32 K Kt—B 3	Kt—K 4
12 R x R ch	K x R	33 Kt—K 2	Kt—B 6
13 B—K 3	Q—Kt 3	34 Q Kt—B 3	P—K R 3
14 Q—Q 2	K—Kt sq	35 Kt—Q 5 ch	K—Q 2
15 R—K B sq	Kt—B 3	36 Q Kt—B 4	Q—Kt 8 ch
16 B—R 6	R—K B sq	37 K—Kt 2	Kt—Kt 4
17 Q—B 4	B x B	38 Kt—B 3	Q—B 7 ch
18 Q x B	P—B 5 ch	39 K—R sq	Q—B 4
19 K—R sq	P x P	40 Q—Q 4 ch	K—B sq
20 P x P	Kt—K 4	41 P—K R 4.	
21 P—Q 4	Kt—B 2		

At this stage the game was adjourned. Herr Mieses afterward resigned, for he saw that 41.., P—K 4 was fatal.

Notes.

(a) This is a bad move. The German thought he had something great; but overlooked Black's 25th move, which demonstrates the faultiness of White's play.

(b) Now he is safe with the exchange ahead. After this White has a most difficult game to defend.

(c) If 31.., Q x Kt; 32 Q—R 3 ch, K—K sq; 33 Kt—B 6 ch, K—Q sq; 34 Q x R ch, and wins the Kt also.

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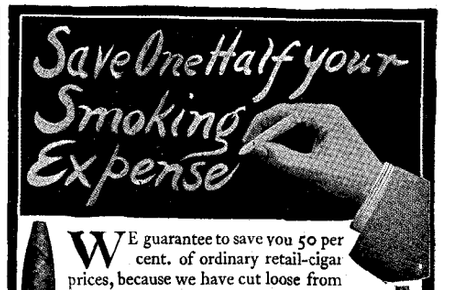

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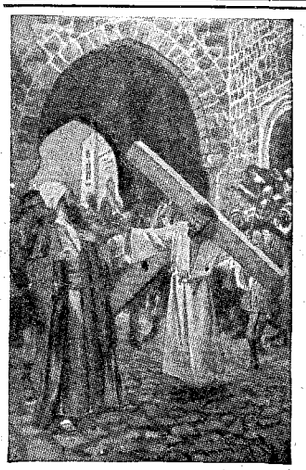

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